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CHINA WAR

1860

LETTERS AND JOURNAL

BY

LT. G. ALLGOOD

From an Oil Painting by a Chinese Artist *Engraved by [illegible]*

THE RUSSIAN CEMETERY OUTSIDE THE WALLS OF PEKIN.

CHINA WAR

LETTERS AND JOURNAL

MAJOR-GENERAL

1st EDITION

WITH NUMEROUS ILLUSTRATIONS

LONGMANS, GREEN, AND CO.
39 PATERNOSTER ROW
NEW YORK AND BOMBAY
1901

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CHINA WAR

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LETTERS AND JOURNAL

BY

MAJOR-GENERAL G. ALLGOOD C.B.

FORMERLY LT. G. ALLGOOD

D.A.Q.M.G.

1st DIVISION CHINA FIELD FORCE

WITH NUMEROUS ILLUSTRATIONS, MAPS, AND PLANS

LONGMANS, GREEN, AND CO.

39 PATERNOSTER ROW, LONDON

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PREFACE

THESE Letters, and Journal of the road between Taku and Pekin, were written in the war of 1860, but are now published in the belief that at the present time they may interest the public.

Neither Letters nor Journal have any pretension to literary merit, but are exactly as written forty years ago.

The maps and plans have been re-drawn from sketches made at the time by the author, and sent home to illustrate his letters.

G. A.

BLINDBURN: 1900.

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LETTERS REGARDING CHINA WAR, 1860

Letter I.

Allahabad: January 12, 1860.

My dear Mother,—The place from which this letter is written will surprise you. My last letter will, I fear, have made you too sanguine of my early return home; and I fully thought when I wrote it that I should turn my face towards it in March, so much so that in a few more days I would have written to secure a passage. My plans are all changed, and I am off to China.

On the night of the 7th Lord Clyde called me to his tent, and showed me a list he had made out of the China Staff. Among them was my name as Deputy Assistant-Quartermaster-General of Sir John Michel's Division.[1] He said, 'Will this do for you?' I could not as a soldier refuse it, and accepted it.

I am now on my way to Calcutta (having left camp thirty-six hours after the appointment was offered). I have telegraphed to General Michel for orders to await me there, and shall act according to his wishes. It is probable I may be in Calcutta a fortnight or three weeks, and I shall write from there. You must not grieve, dear Mother, at my going, as it will give me still further claims when I get my company. The war will (D.V.) soon be over, and I shall be with you a few months later than I originally intended.

Peter Lumsden[2] goes in the same capacity, with Sir Robert Napier's Division, and we shall very probably go to Hong-Kong together. There is great excitement about the expedition, and every one is longing to go and envying my good fortune. Amongst them is Probyn,[3] who went straight up to Head-Quarters a few days ago. I was so glad to see him again. He is not a bit changed, and just the same fine-hearted fellow as ever. The command of the Irregular Cavalry had already, unfortunately, been given away, but the G.G. told him that if any more went he should not be forgotten. Strange to say, Probyn was in my tent when I got your letter of the 29th of November, in which Annie says that Henry Baker and dear *Izzie* had asked him to go to Elemore to go to Lady Boyne's ball. He would, he said, be only too happy, though the journey from Upper India would be a long one rather!

I met him again last night at Sir John Inglis's

[1] General Sir John Michel, G.C.B., &c.

[2] Afterwards General Sir Peter S. Lumsden, G.C.B., C.S.I.

[3] Afterwards General Sir Dighton M. Probyn, V.C., G.C.V.O., K.C.B., K.C.S.I., &c.

house, at Cawnpore, where I dined. Tell Ella that I did not know until to-day that her cousin was his Aide-de-Camp [1] for I have long been very anxious to see him. He was dining out, however, or I should have met him.

I dined with the Governor-General and Lady Canning the night before I left camp, and they were both most agreeable, and wished me all luck in saying good-bye. Lady Canning, as I have told you, is charming; I have really quite lost my heart to her!

Everyone thinks that this China war must be soon over, as we shall strike at the heart of the Empire. What a traveller I shall become! I shall be able to discourse about the flavour of roasted puppy dogs and bird's-nest soup! I think I must bring you an eatable puppy home! Little did I think, when I left you in July '57, that I should have to go through a China war after the mutineers were quelled. Such is life! 'Man proposes, and God disposes.' But shall I not enjoy home all the more after two campaigns, and shall I not return (D.V.) to dear old home a perfect veteran in war, even though I still be a Lieutenant? My health, thank God, and constitution are as sound as can be, and I never was stronger in my life—fit for any knocking about they choose to give me.

I am so much obliged to General Eyre for interesting himself so much on my behalf, and for getting my name put down for one of the posts held by Indian Officers at the Horse Guards. This China campaign will give me a better claim to it, and I should not think it would be prejudicial to my prospects in not being at hand to step into it in consequence of my being absent on service. I did not volunteer, but it would never have done to have refused going on service when a chance offered itself. My thoughts were all of home, but I feel sure this war will not long keep me in China.

I was delighted that Macbean [2] had been staying at Nunwick, and that you and Jim had also asked him to stay with you in February. I had a long letter from him telling how much he had enjoyed it, and how he looked forward to paying you a visit. I am so glad you liked him, for he is a warm friend of mine. Browne,[3] if you meet, you will like equally well. I make but *few friends*, but I flatter myself that those I call such would all be appreciated by you. You must direct your letters in future D.A.Q.M.G., General Michel's Division, China Expeditionary Force, viâ Hong-Kong. I fear that after leaving India I shall not get my letters so regularly. I will continue to write twice a month. There will be no difficulty, when I come home, in going straight from China without landing in India. I shall go very light as far as regards baggage, taking nothing but what is absolutely necessary. In case I was unable to meet a horse to suit me at Calcutta, I took

[1] Rupert Cochrane. Afterwards killed tiger-hunting in India.

[2] Afterwards General G. Scougal Macbean, C.B.

[3] Afterwards General Sir Samuel Browne, V.C., G.C.B., K.C.S.I.

the precaution before leaving camp to march my old charger 'Calcutta' to Calcutta. Roberts,[1] to whom I had sold him, let me have him back again. Little 'Jaephul' I made over to Roberts, who is in our Department, and he promised to be a good friend to him. Poor little horse, he has done my work for nearly thirteen years! My horse should reach Calcutta (about 900 miles) in thirty days, as for about 240 miles of it there is a railroad. I have sent home my gun and rifle, and box containing six Rampoor shawls: take what you like from them; you will find them great beauties, and superior to what I sent home before. Keep the others until I come home and I will distribute them.

My friend Anson[2] has gone out from England to join Sir Hope Grant at Hong-Kong. The only three Indian officers in the Staff proceeding to China are General Napier,[3] Lumsden, and myself. Every one says that General Michel is a very fine soldier, but I will tell you more about him when I know him. I proceed on my journey towards Calcutta to-morrow morning, and hope to arrive there on 16th or 17th.

There have been some changes in the regiments ordered to China since I wrote. Orders from the Horse Guards upset the ones we had made, and, instead of three Infantry Regiments going from this Presidency, one only goes, viz. the 99th. The Native Punjabee regiments are the 5th, 8th, 15th, and 19th, and a regiment of Hindoostanees has been added.

In addition to these, three Native Infantry Regiments go from Bombay and Madras. In round numbers the force will be about 18,000 men, including Marines. I look forward with pleasure to seeing new countries and strange people. It is possible I may see Japan on my way back. I fear the Indian Commissariat will not be employed. More's the pity!

I have not time to write more until I get to Calcutta.

It will be a feather in my cap to be present at the capture of Pekin! You must not care about my absence for a few months longer than you expected.

With best of loves to all,

Your ever affectionate son,

GEORGE ALLGOOD.

[1] Afterwards Field-Marshal Lord Roberts, V.C., G.C.B., G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E.

[2] Major Anson, C.B., A.D.C. to General Sir Hope Grant, G.C.B.

[3] Afterwards Field-Marshal Lord Napier of Magdala, G.C.B., G.C.S.I.

LETTER II.

Military Club, Calcutta: January 31, 1860.

Dear Mother,—I reached Calcutta all right on the 17th of this month, and am awaiting orders for my embarkation. General Grant[4] is on his way down to Calcutta. General Napier and Peter Lumsden are here. We shall probably all go together. Hong-Kong is reached by opium clippers in from eighteen to twenty-two days. Sailing vessels at this time of year are generally two months. I

[4] General Sir Hope Grant, G.C.B.

hope to proceed by the former. I have just been paying a visit to my friends the Dorans at Barrackpoor. Captain Doran is a fine fellow. I knew her well at Simla. He commands the 19th Punjab Infantry, and has this day come to Calcutta with his regiment for embarkation to China. Poor Mrs. Doran is very sad at being left alone. She is a charming person. I shall meet many of my Indian friends in China—amongst them Colonel Murray, who commands the 87th Royal Irish Fusileers. He was on the point of going home. I fear his poor wife will be sadly disappointed. We had arranged to go by the same steamer in March! Wars are sad episodes for the womenkind! How fortunate one esteems oneself in being a bachelor in such times, with no anxious cares about one's better half! I am comfortably ensconced here in the Club. My horse should be down about the 12th of next month. As soon as he arrives I shall be glad to be off to the wars. Our operations will be in Northern China, where the summer, though warm, is short, and the winter very severe. I trust it will all be over before the winter sets in, and that by August, or even before then, I shall write from the Capital of the Celestial Empire.

General Mansfield, I believe, is going as second in command. I hope it is true, for he will be worth a great deal in advising Grant, and in dealing with the French.

I am trying to brush up my French. I have forgotten it nearly all. As to Chinese, I hardly hope to do more than pick up a bare smattering of the language.

I paid Vincent Eyre[1] a visit at his house at Ishapoor yesterday, and he kindly made me promise to go and stay a day or so with them before I leave.

General Outram[2] asked me to dine with him two days ago; I regretted that I was engaged. I am going to call on him to-day. He has recently sent home a very well-written minute on the proposed amalgamation of the Indian with the Royal Army. I have not seen it yet, but have been promised a peep at it. You will see it referred to in Parliament, without doubt; and from all I've heard it will create a startling sensation. Vincent Eyre, you know, is a great friend of Outram's, and he told me about it.

I shall send a box of superfluous things home before leaving Calcutta, as I shall try hard to go home direct from China. My agents here, Canter & Co., are most obliging people, and so civil. My old friend Peter Lumsden is down here; and I hope we shall go in the same vessel to Hong-Kong.

Was not Bessie's little sailor boy, *Kiddy*, buried at Hong-Kong? I shall go and see his grave, and write to her.

I look forward to getting some beautiful things for The Hermitage drawing-room.

[1] Afterwards General Sir Vincent Eyre, C.B., K.C.S.I.
[2] Afterwards General Sir James Outram, Bart., G.C.B., K.C.S.I.

I should like you to know Norman [1]; if you have an opportunity, I do wish you would ask him to come and see you. A letter addressed to the agents would be sure to reach him. You would all like him.

I got your letter of December 15 a day or two ago. I was sorry to hear Henry Baker had been so unwell, but I hope he has quite recovered; it was an unfortunate thing just before going to Wynyard. Best love to all.

Ever your affectionate son,

G. ALLGOOD.

LETTER III.

Calcutta: February 12, 1860.

Dear Mother,—Sir Hope Grant reached Calcutta yesterday afternoon, and I am in hopes that I shall know to-morrow when I shall embark for China. Sir Robert Napier has written to Lord Clyde to ask that I may be changed to his division. I have known Napier a long while. He is a most able officer, and a most gentlemanly, nice person. I should be glad to be with him. I am not sure that Lord Clyde will sanction the arrangement, for he is so *crotchety*!

General Grant will probably leave Calcutta about the 25th of this month, and I am in hopes that most of the Staff will go at the same time.

[1] Afterwards General Sir Henry Norman, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., C.I.E., and Governor of Jamaica and of Queensland.

We should have to wait a long time at Hong-Kong for the last regiments of the force, as it is impossible that they can all be off before the middle of March. You will be glad to hear that Probyn's regiment is under orders for China. There have been many alterations made since the first in regard to the regiments going. It would hardly interest you to give a detail. Sufficient to say that seven Queen's Infantry, eight Native Infantry, 400 European, 800 Native Cavalry, four batteries of Royal Artillery, 100 Royal Engineers, and 260 Native Sappers go from India, making a total force of above 16,000 men. This added to what already is in China, and to what is *en route* thither from England and the Cape, will raise the numbers of the British force to fully 20,000 men. We shall therefore outnumber the French.

Sir Robert Napier has been, and is still, superintending the embarkation of the force, and seeing that they leave India properly equipped with every necessary.

Everything now is in proper train, and, as far as the force from this country is concerned, the equipment will be complete. If we have to undertake land operations, I hope we shall not make such a wretched business of it, in regard to provisions, land transport, &c., as was made in the Crimea.

As far as I know, the Staff is good, as there are a lot of old hands in it.

I had a letter from Sir John Michel yesterday to

say that he would leave Bombay about the end of this month.

I had a letter from Colonel Becher[1] the other day. It was believed generally in Head-Quarters Camp that the Chief[2] would remain another year in India. I myself can hardly believe it; he is, however, gone with the Governor-General to Peshawar, or is about to go.

My horse 'Calcutta' reached here on 30th day from Paneeput (where I left camp). He is in splendid condition. An absurd rule has been passed limiting Staff officers' horses to one each. I am going to buy some other animal here, as Hope Johnstone (who goes in the Irregular Cavalry and is allowed four horses!) has offered to take one for me. It is well known to every one who has served in the field that the junior officers of the Quartermaster-General's Department require more horses on field service than any other officers. We have an immense deal of hard riding work, and it is a farce to suppose that one horse would do half one's work. I made a reference about it, but got no satisfaction! I am sending round the Cape a box containing some wearing apparel and some two or three little ornaments &c., which are for your table or mantel-piece. I hope to make a grand collection in China of all sorts of pretty things.

The present report in Calcutta is that the Emperor of China is most anxious to make peace, and will go almost any length towards attaining it. I, however, place no credit in such reports. It may be so, or it may not, one is as likely as the other, and I would bet even on either side. It would be a disappointment going to China merely to return again! I don't think the French would relish the idea after their long voyage. I got your letter of December 14th, with enclosure from Ella, and am looking forward to receive another in a day or two. The last news from England reached Calcutta in fifteen days! In a month or so it won't occupy more than a third of that time, as we shall have telegraphic communication.

I dined with Sir James Outram a few nights ago. I *hear* that Lord Canning entirely concurs in Sir James Outram's minute protesting against the amalgamation of the Indian Army with the Horse Guards.

I do hope Henry Baker has quite got over the influenza. I am working away at French during my spare time, as I am a wretched hand at it. I hope I shall know more about it before this expedition is over. I shall keep this letter open if possible until I have seen Sir Hope Grant, and I shall probably be able to tell you when we shall get off.

13*th*.—It is next to arranged that Sir Robert Napier remains here some time longer to superintend the embarkation of the troops. As he has applied for me for his division, I am to remain, together with his Divisional Staff; it will probably be until the 20th or 25th of next month. The direct

[1] Quartermaster-General of India, afterwards General Sir A. M. Becher, K.C.B.

[2] Lord Clyde, Commander-in-Chief.

opium clipper steamers are only fifteen or eighteen days to China, so that we should be there long before the last of the troops, who go for the most part in sailing vessels. An expedition of this sort, when troops have to be drawn from the most remote parts of the Empire, cannot be got off in a moment. I have nothing more to add in this letter. You will (D.V.) hear from me soon again.

With best love to all, your affectionate son,

GEORGE ALLGOOD.

LETTER IV.[1]

Calcutta: Feb. 9, 1860.

Dear General,—Sir H. Grant may be expected here to-morrow, and the Staff will then know when they are to embark for China. Sir R. Napier is here now superintending the equipment and embarkation of the expeditionary force going from this Presidency. As many of the Staff as are here make themselves useful under him. All is now plain sailing, for the equipment of the troops in every respect has been finally determined, and it only remains to see that none leave the country who have not got everything requisite. I myself am glad to have had the opportunity of taking notes as to how the force is equipped, and what stores each department has sent out from this country. I can now give you a detail of the force going from India. The component parts have been hitherto frequently changed, but we may, I think, look on it as now settled. This includes all those that went to China last autumn.

Engineers.

23rd Co. R. E.	120
2 Co. Madr. Sappers, at 180 men per Co.	270

Cavalry.

1st Dragoon Guards	400
Fane's Horse	356
1st Punjab Cavalry	400

Artillery.

8/11 R. A.	201
8/14 R. A.	159
7/18 R. A.	208
7/14 R. A.	182

Three of these are Horse Field Batteries.

Infantry (English).

H.M. 3rd Regiment.
67th ,,
99th ,,
60th (2nd Batt.)
87th ,,
31st ,,
44th ,,

Each of these regiments will be, or has been, made up to 1,000 men.

Infantry (Native).

8th Punjab Infantry
11th ,, ,,
15th ,, ,,
19th ,, ,,
Loodiana Regiment
} Punjabees and Sikhs.

These regiments will average about 800 men to each.

Regiment of Lucknow
2 Regiments from Bombay
1 Regiment from Madras
} Hindoostanees.

To Recapitulate.

Engineers and Sappers	390
Cavalry	1,156
Artillery	745
English Infantry	7,000
Native Infantry	7,200
Total from India	16,491

Government expects the whole to be off by the 10th March. There is fortunately plenty of available tonnage in Calcutta, and ships are glad to tender on the terms offered by Government. I hear that a Land Transport Corps is being organised at Hong-

[1] To General Eyre, Commandant at Chatham.

Kong. We are sending out a lot of pack-saddles and gear from this country, and three months' forage for 1,200 horses, exclusive of what may be consumed on the voyage. It is difficult getting the amount of hay we require in Calcutta, and I expect the Commissariat will have to turn their eyes in the direction of Australia for a further supply. It is to be hoped that the authorities in China are not idle in laying in everything the country can furnish. By the meagre accounts one can hear regarding the province of Pecheli we should make the country go some way towards supplying our wants in transport, animals, and food. Our information regarding the country is, however, scanty in the extreme, and we should be prepared to make ourselves quite independent for the first few months at any rate. The Indian Commissariat are to supply the native troops, but the Royal troops are to be fed by their own Department. Even though the country is unknown, I have no fears of the former breaking down, as the Department has been brought up in war.

Every regiment embarked here goes with 500 rounds of ammunition per man, and is supplied with tents more commodious, but about as light as the ordinary bell tent. On board ship the men are allowed a maximum space of fifteen superficial feet so that they may have more room to move about in than usual.

A depôt has been formed at Singapore for fresh provisions &c., to enable all transports to take in three or four days' fresh provisions in passing. The force will rendezvous at Hong-Kong. Napier has applied to the Chief to place me in his Division. I hope the Chief will grant his request, for I have known Sir R. Napier for a long while, and look on him as a most excellent and scientific officer. I hear General Michel well spoken of by all, and I know I should get on well with him if I am not allowed to change. It was generally believed at Head-Quarters a few days ago, that Lord Clyde would remain another year in India! I can hardly think it probable from all I have heard him say. General Mansfield made some reference home on his being placed as second in command to Sir H. Grant. What that reference is I don't know; but meanwhile he is going to Bombay to await a reply to it.

I can well imagine his desire not to serve under him, as he has been in a so much higher position during the late war, and it is an unjust appreciation of his services and talents in placing him under a man—a very good officer without doubt—but who, everyone knows, has not half the brains of Mansfield. I am sorry myself that Mansfield is not going as Chief.

I went up, the other day, to see your brother[1] at his house at Ishapoor. I have as yet been unable to accept his kind invitation to pass a day or two with him. He has a very pretty place on the banks of the Hoogly, about eighteen miles above Calcutta, with extensive grounds very tastefully laid out,

[1] Afterwards General Sir Vincent Eyre, C.B., K.C.S.I.

greensward running down to the very edge of the water. He looks better and younger than he did when I saw him last at the relief of Lucknow.

10*th*.—Sir H. Grant is to be in Calcutta to-day, and I suppose we shall receive from him instructions as to when we are to sail. I hear from his Staff that he is to go as soon as he can. The horse I marched down from camp reached me two days ago in good condition, having averaged above twenty-five miles a day for thirty days. I am now quite ready to start. I see no chance of getting my company, so I fear I shall still remain a lieutenant after the coming campaign is over!

Love to Bessie and the children.

Affectionately yours,

G. ALLGOOD.

LETTER V.

Calcutta: March 8, 1860.

My dear Mother,—After what I told you in my last letter you will not be surprised to see this also dated Calcutta. Sir Hope Grant with his Staff went off on 25th of last month. Sir Robert Napier and the rest of us are to follow on 25th of this month in one of the opium clipper steamers. We are working hard in trying to get the troops all off by that date. There still remain to embark 900 Irregular Cavalry, the 87th Foot, a company of Artillery, and the 15th Punjab Infantry. With the exception of the Artillery, the others are coming down from up country as fast as they can. The Marine Department has some difficulty in fitting up ships as fast as we want them. I rather fear we shall find great difficulty in getting off all our Cavalry by the date we wish. The last portion of the force, all in fact, except the Artillery (which will be off in a day or two), will start together. The Infantry will be in steamers which will tow the horse ships. By this means the last part of our force will reach Hong-Kong much quicker than that which has gone before. Admiral Hope has been asked to send to Singapore as many steamers as he can spare to tow up the troopships to Hong-Kong.

The grand rendezvous will, I believe, be at Chusan, and not at Hong-Kong. It is to be hoped that the French will not have to wait for us. Their troops cannot well be at Hong-Kong before 20th April. I look forward with much pleasure to this expedition, as the kind of war will be novel, and the country new. I am, thank God, in most excellent health, and all the better for the knocking about during the last three years. Sir Hope Grant has promised to change me to Sir R. Napier's Division.

I think I told you in my last letter that Lord Clyde had settled to remain another year in India. The Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief go up to Simla, but, report says, will come down to Calcutta in July. Had I not been going to China,

I should probably have remained another year in India, with Lord Clyde. General Mansfield[1] will, I think, probably go home. I don't think he has been treated quite fairly. He was originally promised the Commander-in-Chiefship at Bombay. Suddenly he was gazetted a Lieut.-General in China, and asked to serve under Sir H. Grant. He made a reference home about it, and pending the reply proceeds towards Bombay, from which place he can sail for China if necessary. Meanwhile the Chief remains another year, and it becomes necessary to provide for Sir Hugh Rose,[2] who was to have succeeded Lord Clyde. Without waiting for General Mansfield's reply they put Sir Hugh Rose into the Bombay command, leaving Mansfield the option of taking the Second in command in China, or nothing.

I got your letter of January 16 a few days ago, and was very sorry to hear that you had had one of your winter colds. I am glad to hear that the passage money was refunded.

By Grindlay's account I am certainly some 80*l.* richer than I thought I was.

I saw Outram's protest on the amalgamation of the Armies. It is one of the most logically written papers I ever recollect reading, and will do much good at home, inasmuch as it will give the people a clearer insight into the matter than they have had hitherto, and dispel many of their fondest hallucinations. Mr. Wilson has introduced a systematic plan of taxation, which every one commends. It is what very many people have been long clamouring for, but Government has never had the courage nor ability to introduce. There is no doubt of it, but that if the finances of India are properly managed, India will not only be flourishing, but be the greatest and most valuable dependency England possesses. I am tired of it, however, and am not sorry to get away from it.

Staff officers are only allowed to take one horse to China. In our Department there is work for at least three! I have bought a blood-looking pony, which I am going to try and smuggle to China, as well as my horse. Now good-bye for the present, dearest mother. You shall hear again from me before I leave Calcutta. Best love to you all.

Your affectionate son,

G. ALLGOOD.

[1] Afterwards General Lord Sandhurst, G.C.S.I., G.C.B., Commander-in-Chief of Bombay and of India.

[2] Afterwards Field-Marshal Lord Strathnairn, G.C.B., G.C.S.I., Commander-in-Chief of Bombay and of India.

LETTER VI.

Steamer 'Lancefield,' Singapore, March 30, 1860.

My dear Mother,—To-day is the 30th of March, and we have been five days at sea. We shall reach Penang, officially termed 'Prince of Wales Island,' most probably to-morrow evening. Our stay there will only be for a few hours. If the Suez steamer has passed I don't intend posting this letter till we

reach Singapore, as the latter is only two days' voyage from Penang, and my letter will be in time for the next mail passing Singapore.

We left Calcutta, in the opium clipper steamer 'Lancefield,' on the morning of the 25th. Sir Robert Napier, Greathed,[1] Captain Hammer, Captain Brooke, and myself, belonging to the China force, with two or three others, comprised the passengers; and we have had very fine weather. Colonel Walker[2] and Lumsden were left behind to see off the last of the China troops. A fresh breeze for the first forty-eight hours made nearly all except myself sick. The sea is now smooth as glass, consequently the temperature higher. Take up your map of the Eastern Seas, and note our course. We left the Andaman Islands on our right about thirty hours ago. To-night we shall sight the Malay coast. Penang is a small island—a penal settlement on its coast—at which all the P. & O. steamers, and vessels to and from China, touch; I will tell you more about it when I have seen it. Beyond it we shall enter the Malacca Straits, between the Malay Peninsula and the Island of Sumatra. I am as yet very badly up in the geography of the East. This expedition will brush up my geography if it does nothing else for me. I pass my time in writing, reading books on China, and French.

Our passage has been hitherto slow, not above ten knots an hour. We ought to reach Hong-Kong (D.V.) about the 10th or 11th April. We have our horses on board with us. Mowbray's Battery lost eleven horses up to Singapore; the three great ships of the Bengal Cavalry only one horse in all.

I never did like a sea life much, although I am a good sailor. It is monotonous—most of the staff (Dillon[3] and myself excepted).suffering from *mal de mer*. Canton from England is only a week further off than Calcutta. Perhaps you would not have wished me to have come home before Lord Clyde, and in that case it is better being employed on service in strange countries than in remaining in India. I long to visit Japan. It is only two days' steaming from Shanghai, and not more distant from the Peiho. I shall surely have an opportunity of seeing Nagasaki and Jeddo! I never think of Japan without calling to mind the Japanese in the children's pictures that used to hang up in the yellow room at dear old Nunwick. These expeditions doubtless 'open one's mind' a good deal. I thought yesterday I had discovered the 'sea serpent,' but it turned out to be the root of a huge tree! probably a cocoa-nut tree from the Andamans.

Great credit is due to Sir R. Napier for the manner in which he has got off this expedition. Probyn got off the day before we did. We passed him, however, before he reached the sea. He and

[1] Bengal Engineers, Aide-de-Camp to Sir Robert Napier.

[2] Assistant Quartermaster-General of Cavalry, afterwards General Sir C. P. B. Walker, &c. With German army.

[3] Assistant Adjutant-General to Sir Robert Napier, afterwards General Sir Martin Dillon, K.C.B., C.S.I., &c.

his men gave us a cheer in passing. We are *most* comfortable on this little opium clipper and fare much better than if we were on a P. & O. steamer.

31*st*.—We entered the Straits of Malacca this morning. They are wide at first, the coast of Sumatra being more than 150 miles distant.

Did I tell you in my last letter from Calcutta that your letter of the 26th February which you addressed to Calcutta reached me a short time before leaving? I hope you have now shaken off your long tiresome cold. Have you read 'Lord Elgin's Mission to China,' by Laurence Oliphant? It is very interesting at the present time. He makes me long to visit Japan.

Java is another land I should like to see. What a pity it was the English gave it up after once having taken possession of it! We shall hear at Singapore probably whether Sir H. Grant has gone to the northward.

At Hong-Kong we must seek another vessel to go on in, as our present one is merely an opium clipper which trades between that place and Calcutta.

2*nd April*.—We reached Penang about 2 o'clock (night), and steamed into the harbour at daybreak yesterday morning. I passed a delightful day. The island will smack rather of convicts to you; it did so to me till I had seen it. But a more lovely little island is nowhere to be found than 'Prince of Wales Island.'

Sir R. Napier and his Staff landed about 7 o'clock A.M., having previously sent a man on shore to procure carriages and ponies. Our object was to visit officially the Governor[1] of the Straits (who is at present at Penang). He resides on the top of a mountain eight miles from the town. Our ponies were waiting for us at the foot of it, about a five miles drive from our starting point. Penang is an island, about twelve or fifteen miles long, on the Malay coast. A narrow channel about three-quarters of a mile in width (in which ships lie) divides it from the mainland. The features of this little island are bold and beautiful. On the Malay side the land is flat for about four miles up to the base of the hills, which rise boldly but not precipitately to a height of 2,700 feet above the sea. The ridge rises from one end of the island to the other from, I *think*, N.W. to S.E., and is clothed with the most luxuriant forest. At its base and up to a considerable height the trees are those which flourish in the tropics. Higher up and near the summit one recognises with delight a few trees and shrubs of our dear little England. Ferns grow in the greatest variety and profusion. I had been accustomed in the Himalayas to see a great variety, but on Government Hill, 'Prince of Wales Island,' there are ferns—gigantic, and of divers kinds—which I had never met before.

Our drive took us through the low lands of the Island. These closely resemble Ceylon. Chinamen

[1] Colonel Cavenagh, afterwards General Sir Orfeur Cavenagh, K.C.S.I.

are the principal inhabitants of the town and its environs. Malays occupy the interior. Cocoa-nut and palm trees flourish, pineapples grow in the hedgerows and cost about a halfpenny each. The far-famed mangosteen—pronounced to be the very best fruit in the world—was not yet ripe. After all I had heard I longed to taste it. But the most enjoyable part of the day was our ride of three miles up the hill through a dense forest; we began sensibly to feel a change of temperature.

The Governor's House was on the highest ridge; round about it were half a dozen houses belonging to other people. One house was for the use of invalid officers. The temperature below in the shade was about 90°; here it was about 75°. The view from it was of its kind the most splendid eye ever rested on. On both sides one could see the sea. But towards the harbour and the Malay coast the view was—there is no word to describe it. From a height of nearly 3,000 feet one looked down on the town and harbour below us, the latter crowded (for Penang I mean) with vessels and junks, the narrow channel between Penang and the Malay coast gradually increasing in width until on either side it merged in the wide sea. The Malay Peninsula added more than anything to the extreme beauty of the scene. Its shores down to the very sea were clothed with cocoa-nut trees, while beyond them a golden carpet of ripe grain extended, interspersed here and there with jungle, to the foot of hills covered with richest vegetation. Within the scope of the view several fine rivers empty themselves into the sea. Their serpentine course in the distance appeared like silver threads, which gradually lost themselves at the foot of the mountains.

The Governor was very glad to see us. Most of us had known him in India. His worthy wife pressed us to stay breakfast. We were hungry after our ride and did not require much pressing. In exchange for information about Penang and Singapore we bartered Calcutta gossip. We passed a pleasant morning, and returned to our ship at four in the afternoon. She at once started. The P. & O. steamer 'Cadiz' was at Penang shortly before us. One of the passengers on board was Sir J. Michel, my Divisional Chief. I did not see him. I told you that Sir R. Napier had asked Sir H. Grant to exchange me into his Division. I don't know whether this has been done yet or not. If when I reach Hong-Kong I can hear nothing about it I must join Sir J. Michel. In the harbour were also two of H.M. steam gunboats looking out to give troop vessels coming from India a helping hand. We left the naval officer a list of the Calcutta ships, with their dates of sailing. I shall look on my day's holiday at Penang as one of the most agreeable I ever passed. During the night we shall reach Singapore, where I shall post this letter. We coal there, and go thence direct to Hong-Kong. We passed the 'Cadiz' at 5 o'clock this morning, even

though she got three hours' start of us from Penang. The Governor of the Straits, Colonel Cavenagh, has a small steam yacht on which he goes about to visit the different settlements. Singapore is his general place of residence, but he prefers Penang and his house on the hill, I think. A wise man!

We had a report yesterday at Penang—it came from Hong-Kong—that two of our gunboats had been destroyed by the Chinese in the Gulf of Pecheli, and that no one had escaped. If such be the case it does not show the Emperor of China has his thoughts bent on peace.

With best of loves to all,

Your affectionate son,

G. ALLGOOD.

LETTER VII.

Steamer 'Lancefield': 3rd April, 1860.

Dear Mother,—You will have got my letter from Singapore, dated the 2nd of this month. We steamed into port about 8 o'clock A.M. The entrance is very picturesque from the innumerable islands, small, but densely covered with evergreen wood, chiefly mangrove, which flourishes in the salt water. You can easily imagine yourself near the Line. Singapore is only 80 miles N. of it.

We steamed into the inner harbour, where the coal wharves are. The entrance is very narrow. Several very small islands rising some 60 to 80 feet out of the water, and creeks which become visible on turning round the corners of these little islands, remind one of Chinese pictures on the paper one often sees on the room walls of inns in England. We landed as soon as we could, and drove up to the town, which is about 2 to 2½ miles distant.

Sir Robert Napier sent an Aide-de-Camp and me to call on Sir R. Maclure (the senior naval officer at Singapore) with a return showing the dates on which the different troopships had left Calcutta. The 'Cadiz' (P. & O. steamer) came in just after us. All the 'swells' assembled at the hotel—Sir R. Napier, Sir R. Maclure, Sir J. Michel, a French admiral, and a French general of division, the two latter having come out on board the 'Cadiz.' Sir R. Napier had written to Sir J. Michel in the morning to tell him that he had asked Sir Hope Grant to post me to his Division, and hoped Sir J. Michel had no objection. Sir J. Michel, unfortunately, has the greatest objection, and told Sir Robert that he would not give me up without doing his best to keep me. Sir J. Michel called me aside and spoke to me in a most flattering way, and told me he was determined to keep me, and was pleased to say he knew me by name well. I am now uncertain to whom I shall belong. I wish to goodness it was settled one way or another.

There were English, French, and Punjabee troops in port, so that the place looked quite lively. We started about 6 P.M., but had not gone a mile when

something went wrong with our machinery, and we had to anchor.

This morning (4th) we got off at 8 A.M., and are now steaming away at a great rate, as it is most important that we should beat the 'Cadiz' into Hong-Kong by 30 hours at least. We are going our best. The two steamers are pretty evenly matched in speed. We shall have six hours' start, and shall probably gain half a knot an hour.

Singapore is not to be compared with Penang for beauty. The French line-of-battle screw ship which is carrying some of their troops got an hour's start of us this morning, but we soon passed her.

At Singapore the report is that the Emperor was peacefully inclined, but that there is a strong war party at Pekin bent on fighting.

7th.—We have been beating up against the N.E. monsoon since we left Singapore. Properly speaking, the sea should be quite calm at this season, but I fancy this is an expiring kick of the monsoon we are receiving.

We are now well in the China Sea, opposite Siam or Cochin-China. This windy weather keeps the air cool. We are gradually getting further north. Canton and Hong-Kong are in the same latitude as Calcutta. We are told that the weather won't be very hot yet at Hong-Kong.

Sir R. Maclure said that the report of the loss of the two English gunboats in the Gulf of Pecheli was a fabrication.

I met a friend of Conyers Tower[1] on Sir J. Michel's Staff at Singapore. He says his wife is such a pleasant, charming person.

There is nothing interesting between Singapore and Hong-Kong, as you never sight the land: the deep blue sea and nothing beside.

10th April.—The wind rose last night, and by this morning was blowing a gale, with the sea running high. The wind is delightful, and puts me more in mind of a fresh breeze in the blue Mediterranean than in the China Seas. It helps us on famously, which is more than I can say of our steaming, owing to the wretched coal. It is a pleasant thing to sail in a vessel with a light gale blowing, and with a cool fresh breeze fanning one's face.

To-morrow night, or the following morning, will see us (D.V.) off Hong-Kong (Victoria).

I have written little by little, in case I may not have time at Hong-Kong.

Hong-Kong, 14th April.—We got in on the 13th (yesterday), and have been busy ever since in settling ourselves in a house. The mail leaving to-day gives me an opportunity of adding a few lines. How different the climate is from India at this season! The weather is certainly cold for the season of the year, as the N.E. monsoon has not changed yet. The day before we left the ship the thermometer was at 65° in the Captain's cabin; in Calcutta it would

[1] Inniskilling Dragoons, afterwards General Conyers Tower, C.B., Colonel 3rd Dragoon Guards.

have been 93° to 95° at least. We are all wearing cloth clothes throughout the day. I feel certain that the hot weather here cannot equal that in India. In duration it certainly is not much more than half in its intensity. I shall be better able to judge afterwards.

It appears certain that the expedition will not leave this for fifteen or twenty days at least. I got a letter from Jim and Ella, and two from General Eyre, on arrival here. They have been put into my hands at different places. I expect there is one from you lying about somewhere, which I shall doubtless get. Jim's letter dated 25th February, Eyre's 28th.

I belong to Sir J. Michel's Division, as nothing has been done about changing me. Sir J. Michel is a Royal officer, and has done good service at the Cape and in India. He is highly spoken of, and appears a nice fellow, and I think I shall get on well with him.

Hong-Kong is a striking looking place, very much resembles Gibraltar. It is built at the foot of a mountain, which rises abruptly from the sea to a height of about 2,000 feet. The town is a fine child for its age. I am going to look at poor little *Kiddy's*[1] tomb as soon as I can find a spare hour. He was buried in the 'Happy Valley.'

The port is full of shipping, amongst which a good number of French warships are visible. I cannot make this a longer letter, as time presses, so, with best love to all, will close.

Your affectionate son,

G. ALLGOOD.

[1] The little sailor son, aged fourteen, of General and Mrs. Eyre.

LETTER VIII.[2]

Hong-Kong: 14th April, 1860.

Dear General,—I have received your letters of the 25th and 27th February, one of which Colonel Haythorne gave me. I cannot tell you how obliged I am to you for all your kindness in interesting yourself so much in my behalf, but you should not compare my small services with Norman's, for his are very far superior to mine. I felt I was going down a step in taking this appointment in China, for I was holding a higher position in India *altogether*. Even if Lord Clyde had thought that I was fitted for a higher appointment I don't think he could have given it, as *rank* is required; and as long as that fatal rule lasts I may give up all hopes of holding any higher position than I do now. I have now been nearly ten years as a Deputy Assistant-Quartermaster-General and Lieutenant, and as far as I can see am likely to remain so. It is depressing—very! but I have ceased to think about it.

I did not like it to be said that I refused seeing service when opportunity offered, and I at once

[2] To General Eyre, Commandant at Chatham.

accepted Lord Clyde's offer. Had it not been offered I should have said nothing; it is, at any rate, an extra claim, and if we get hard knocks I may, at any rate, get well mentioned. I shall work and do my best. I have had a good deal of practical work in the field, and can turn my hand to most things now. I will write to you constantly and let you know how things go on.

I don't think it probable that the expedition can sail northward before the first week in May; it may be even later, but I hope not. As for the prospects of peace or war, it will be idle to give you the opinions expressed in public places. I may merely mention that one of General Grant's Staff, in writing from Shanghai, said that it looked war-like. Mr. Bruce [1] is there. Sir Hope returns in ten days to Hong-Kong. I have only been here a day and a half, so cannot give you much news in this letter. I am going to see your dear boy's grave in the 'Happy Valley' as soon as I have a spare hour.

Best love to Bessie and all.

Affectionately yours,

G. ALLGOOD.

[1] Hon. Frederick Bruce, British Envoy in China, afterwards Sir Frederick Bruce, G.C.B., British Envoy to the U.S.

LETTER IXA.[2]

Hong-Kong: April 24th.

My dear General,—I must write you a few lines to tell you what is going on here. Sir H. Grant has been at Shanghai for the last month, and is expected here again in a couple of days. Until his arrival we may expect nothing. The Divisions are not yet formed, but will be on Sir Hope's return. The Admiral [3] is here, making all transport arrangements. The French have fully 3,000 men in harbour at the present time. Some of their ships have been here a week, and they appear to be awaiting further arrivals before proceeding northwards. It is said that they rendezvous at Chusan. Their Commander-in-Chief [4] is in the north. Their Admiral [5] went to the north about ten days ago. All the troops from India will, I hope, be collected here before very many days are over. I am not behind the scenes, and cannot tell you when we shall leave Hong-Kong. I imagine it will depend on Lord Elgin, who will be here a fortnight hence. I have had opportunities recently of meeting merchants both here and in Canton, and have conversed with them on China affairs. The universal opinion is that if we are

[2] To General Eyre.

[3] Admiral Hope, afterwards Sir James Hope, G.C.B.

[4] General de Montauban, afterwards Count Palikao and Head of the French Government.

[5] Admiral Charner.

weak enough to accept an apology for the insult at the Peiho, we shall have to do next year what we have taken so much trouble in doing this—viz. in collecting a very large force, at a very great cost, to humble the Court of Pekin. Anyone who understands the Asiatic character knows that forbearance on our part at the present time would only be attributed by them as fear. The terms offered were, I believe, most moderate. They were, as a matter of course, haughtily rejected. Had they been exacting, backed by an imposing force, they would probably have been accepted. This is the Asiatic character, Asia all over. If we want peace in China and in Japan also, *we must* advance on Pekin. When the enemy is thoroughly humbled we can afford to be generous, but unless the Court of Pekin is humbled at once, and thoroughly humbled too, we shall spend millions on Chinese wars. When they see we *have* the power to enforce our terms at the gates of their capital, they will not wantonly provoke us. This war will be a very expensive one if it is not short and decisive. If Lord Elgin, to please a Ministry, '*kow-tows*' to the Chinese, we shall be bearded in Hong-Kong itself. Such, I know, is the general opinion of those who have the greatest knowledge of the Chinese character. Our position at Canton is singular at the present time. The city is in our possession, and its affairs are regulated by a joint English, French, and Chinese Commission. The rebels are within thirty miles. The Imperialist forces watch the rebels. We watch both, wondering what will happen. The Court of Pekin will doubtless urge the Mandarins on to annoy us while our army is operating in the north. Can they do so as long as the rebels are in their front? It will be solved shortly.

Yours affectionately,

G. ALLGOOD.

LETTER IXB.[1]

Hong-Kong: 24th April, 1860.

The very name of Hong-Kong will recall to you, my dear Bessie, sad remembrances.

I have been to the graveyard in the 'Happy Valley'—a very pretty spot—to see your dear boy's tomb. Colonel Haythorne told me that he had sent you a photograph of it. It is a plain simple tombstone of granite. Is it not strange that I am here to see it? A large monument has been erected by Admiral Sir Michael Seymour to the memory of all the officers who fell or died belonging to H.M.S. 'Calcutta' during her service in the China Seas.

I am much pleased with all I have seen of China and the Chinese. I was at Canton for four days last week, and had opportunities of hearing a good deal of interesting information regarding China. I came to the country with an unfavourable impression of it and its people. I must confess that as yet I am

[1] To Mrs. Eyre.

most agreeably disappointed. As to climate, it is not nearly so warm as it was three months ago in Calcutta!

I knew dear mother would be disappointed at my going out to China, but I could not refuse, anxious as I was to get home. No one seems to know how this war will end. I cannot think it will be a long one; it ought not to be. I enclose a short letter for the General. I am longing to get home, and wish for a short and decisive war. I am pressed for time, so I know you will take the will for the deed, and excuse a long letter.

Ever, dear Bessie, your affectionate brother,

G. ALLGOOD.

LETTER X.

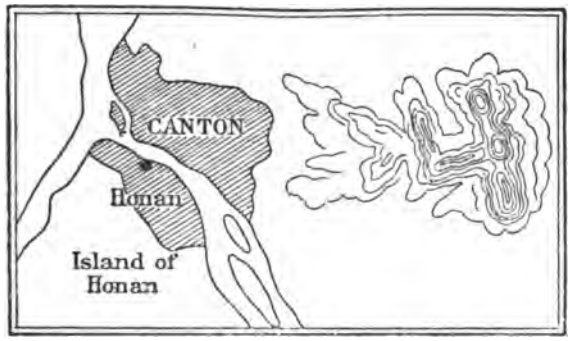
Hong-Kong: April 28, 1860.

Dear Mother,—I received your letter, dated February 24th, a few hours after I last wrote. I am glad to hear that you agree with me in thinking I did right in accepting the appointment with the Force in China. You must not think that Lord Clyde appointed me without first asking if it would be agreeable to me. About six weeks before he said to me, 'If I can give you an appointment on the China Staff, would you like to go on service?' I replied, 'Yes,' but not hearing a word from him again till the last moment I concluded he had been unable to get it for me. I have certainly been holding a higher position in India during the war than I now do, and I was rather disappointed at being placed in an inferior position to those above whom I had served. It is true that I have been Deputy Assistant-Quartermaster-General for ten years, but as long as my rank is what it is I shall never hold a higher position out of India. That is my misfortune! However, it is worth coming here to see such a country, and such an interesting people. As yet I am pleased far beyond my expectations with all I have seen of China and the Chinese. I have recently seen and heard much about them, having been on a visit of four days to Canton. It is only a seven hours' voyage by steamers which run daily backwards and forwards. Sir R. Napier, one or two others, and myself were staying with a merchant[1] there. We left at 8 A.M., and arrived about 4 o'clock in the afternoon. But first I must draw from memory a rough sketch to guide you in following us in our sight-seeing, or you will not understand me.

Our residence is noted by a black dot on the Honan side of the Canton River. Thousands of boats of all sizes ply backwards and forwards. The population who live solely in these boats is estimated at 50,000 souls! From this you may form some idea of the number of boats. The smaller ferry-boats are principally rowed by women, who manage them with great skill. Whole families live on these boats. The crew of my boat at this place consists of the

[1] Mr. O'Dell.

father, mother, and family of about seven, the young one of five years old taking an oar. On our voyage up we passed the famous Bogue Forts, Tiger Island, and Whampoa, places whose names will be familiar to you if you have read an account of the last China



War. The country is like what you see on Chinese vases and paintings. While at Canton I saw several bridges like that on the willow-pattern crockery at home. We went a few minutes after our arrival with our host, Mr. O'Dell, to visit Captain Pym, who is head of Canton Police. He was most civil, and arranged to meet us on the Canton side of the river at six o'clock next morning, with ponies for our party, and mounted police. We met as arranged, and first proceeded to 'do' the attack of Canton in the last war. We rode outside the town in the country for some time, and then round the walls to the position on the heights on the north side which the allied forces now occupy. We then returned home through the heart of the town, visiting one or two 'Yamtens,' the best of which is that which used to belong to the Tartar General, and is said to be as fine a specimen of the house of a Chinese dignitary as you see anywhere. Canton is very large and densely populated. Taking Honan with it, it is put down by those best informed as housing a population of at least 1,000,000. Before our occupation the population considerably exceeded that figure.

Our present position on the heights completely commands the town. A slice of about 300 yards in depth has been cleared inside the walls to enable troops to move rapidly to any point. The city is governed by a joint commission consisting of one English officer, one French, and a Chinese. The Police (which is European and Chinese) keep order in the town. The strength of the Chinese posts of troops near Canton is limited by agreement. Everything goes on smoothly. The Chinese official is represented by his coadjutors to be a worthy, enlightened man. The nearest rebel posts are only thirty miles distant at the present moment. A force of Imperialists is watching them. Each keeps a respectful distance from the other. 'One afraid, and the other dare not.'

Canton is crowded with poor refugees from the country occupied by the rebels. The latter seem to have no friends amongst the Europeans generally, as they kill, burn, destroy, and appropriate all that they can. They appear to be rather, from the accounts I could gather, a lawless set of plunderers. The

rebels in the north are stated to be more orderly. It is feared that those near Canton will stop trade, and that would be serious as Canton is the greatest tea mart in China.

I am rather anxious to see what turn affairs at Canton will take when we are engaged in hostilities in the north. At present it is impossible to guess. We should be strong at Canton while we wage war in the north.

But to resume. We returned to breakfast at Honan, having agreed to meet Captain Pym in the afternoon to visit the temples and town. There is no great beauty in the architecture of Chinese buildings of this nature. All I can say is that they are quaint and picturesque. Inside they are beautifully adorned. The chief temple was that of the 500 gods, 500 actual brazen gods, each with a history! Their Trinity is represented by three huge gods, 'Past,' 'Present,' and 'Future.' All Buddhist temples appear to have these. They are adorned with beautiful specimens of bronze, chinaware, or other rare curiosities, and with sketches, generally of trees and woodland scenery, beautifully drawn with the exception of their false notion of perspective. Another temple we visited was the Temple of Longevity—also Buddhist. Here we saw religious worship performed, which put me much in mind of the worship in the Llama monasteries in Tibet. Most of these temples combine temple and monastery in one. The monasteries are arranged similar to Roman Catholic ones in almost every respect, viz. the discipline and interior economy, and form of daily prayers. Each is presided over by an Abbot or Bishop.

Our walk through the town was very interesting. In the south of China the streets are very narrow, six or eight feet wide. At Canton they are all paved with granite slabs. No carts are used, nor carriages. A kind of sedan chair is only seen. All merchandise is carried by porters. The streets are very clean, the large painted signboards hanging down in front of each shop, with shopman's name and occupation written, sometimes white painting on black boards, on others, golden letters on red, &c., looking extremely picturesque. The shops in the good streets might vie with any town in England. Their neatness, taste, and general arrangement cannot be surpassed, nor can the attention and civility of the shopkeepers. Some of the chinaware shops are beautiful. I had a regular day's shopping, which pleased me much, as it was very novel. I spent a deal of money! I bought several very pretty things, which I know will delight you. I am going to send them off before I leave Hong-Kong—round the Cape. We will have a grand opening when I return. We shopped the best part of two days and never tired of it. In Canton we met with nothing but civility from the Chinese. All looked contented, and you may walk about the worst streets quite alone. On the following day we were especially fortunate in sight-

seeing, with the clergyman of Canton, a Mr. Grey, who has resided many years there, and has studied their manners, customs, language, and religion. This morning was devoted to the Honan side. We entered opium-smoking places, and saw men under the effects of the drug in different stages of intoxication. We looked at the ginger manufactory. We studied all the advertisement placards stuck up on the walls as you see them at home. Mr. Grey could read them all. Suddenly stopping before me he said, 'Here is an amusing one.' A man recommends in the highest terms some concentrated essence of bird's-nest soup, which he states to be unequalled. After giving a description of its merits he winds up with an N.B.—'This preparation is particularly recommended to mothers for fattening their babies.'

Mr. Grey, being intimately acquainted with a Mandarin of great note (one of the Howqua family), took us to call on him and view a specimen of a Chinese gentleman's house. We found some of the family in, and they were very gentlemanly and civil. Whilst tea was being handed round we looked at his china and sketches. The house was furnished with great taste, and scrupulously clean. It was very extensive. In Chinese families, when a son marries a certain portion of the house is made over to him, or he is allowed to build in the grounds. Thus in the house we visited there were several generations of the same family, with some of its collateral branches: Mr. Grey said, probably, with slaves and all, 500 souls in and about the place. All Mandarin families had a nun, who acts as governess to the young ladies. Mr. Grey told us he was afraid we should not see them, as no English lady was with us, and the Chinese generally, especially the higher ranks, would rather that the female portion of the family were not gazed on by 'barbarians.' The 'barbarians' were, however, in luck, for in going through a suite of apartments we came on the younger lady members of the family, with their old governess, at their work. We, of course, took our hats off and bowed low; they returned it, and we stared for some time at one another, both enjoying it. I can speak for myself; for one of the young ladies, a girl of about eighteen, was remarkably handsome. All Chinese ladies rouge extensively.

We then visited the Honan Temple, took tea with the Bishop, and saw all that was to be seen. Everything was explained to us by Mr. Grey; we even visited the holy pigs and fowls. The monastery garden was pretty, and we saw in it several specimens of dwarfed trees.

From all I have heard of the Chinese as a nation, they are very dutiful in all their family relations. In short, their religion is *the worship of their ancestors.*

In the afternoon we again went out shopping on the Canton side. I know you will admire the things which I have bought, but I expect to get even prettier things for The Hermitage in the North of China.

A STREET IN CANTON.

I returned to Hong-Kong on the 21st–22nd. I received your letter dated 9th of March to-day. I am to remain with Sir J. Michel's Division. I like him very well, and I feel sure we shall get on well together. The troops are arriving every hour. Sir H. Grant is expected in two days, and we shall probably hear when the expedition will start northwards. Lord Elgin will be here in a fortnight. We shall not move, I feel sure, till his arrival. The climate is very pleasant, and I am as well as can be. I hope that there will be war. I am not fond of war —nobody who has experienced it can be; but one thing I am sure of, and that is, if there is not war this year we shall be bearded in Hong-Kong itself. Everyone who understands Asiatics knows that, after the licking they gave us at the Peiho, any attempt to patch up matters would be disastrous. It would be attributed to weakness, and our motives would be misunderstood. We must give the Chinese a good drubbing, and when their capital is at our mercy we can afford to be generous, but not before. When they see we can strike hard at their weakest point they will remain quiet through fear. If peace is made without chastisement, it will be short, and the country will have another Chinese war next year.

The other members of Sir J. Michel's staff are nice fellows: Colonel Elkington,[1] Aide-de-Camp, and Capt. Green, Deputy Assistant-Adjutant-General.

[1] Afterwards General Elkington, C.B.

We are pitching a camp for all the troops which arrive on the Chinese shore opposite Hong-Kong. It has already assumed an animated picture. In a week more it will be a large camp.

I have written a long letter, rather hurriedly and loosely, I fear, but I dare say you will be able to read it. Give my best love to all.

Ever your affectionate son,

G. ALLGOOD.

LETTER XI.

Hong-Kong: 4th May, 1860.

My dear Mother,—The climate is here very pleasant and cool; quite a different thing to India. It is quite as warm on the 4th of February at Calcutta as it is here on the 4th of May.

We are to be off northwards in a few days; and it is generally believed that divisions will commence to re-embark (for they have nearly all disembarked here and we are in camp) in a week.

The divisions have been formed as follows:

1ST DIVISION (SIR JOHN MICHEL).	2ND DIVISION (SIR ROBERT NAPIER).
1st Brigade.	*3rd Brigade.*
1st Royals	3rd Buffs
31st Foot	44th Foot
Loodiana Regiment (Sikhs).	8th Punjab Infantry.
2nd Brigade.	*4th Brigade.*
2nd Queen's	67th Foot
60th Rifles	99th „
15th Punjab Infantry.	

10th Punjab Infantry
19th „ „

Each brigade has a battery of artillery, and each division a company of sappers attached.

Cavalry Brigade.

1st Dragoon Guards (two squadrons)
1st Sikh Cavalry (Probyn's)
Fane's Horse.

A battery of Armstrong guns attached.

I believe that Chusan will not be held by us, but the small island of Looloo near it will be held by a small force. But as I am not behind the scenes I don't know what the plans are. I have sent home by this mail a photograph of our division. It includes Sir John Michel, Colonel Elkington, Aide-de Camp, Captain Green, Deputy Assistant-Adjutant-General, and self. I cut my beard off after the war in India was over, and have only just commenced to grow it again; hence the blackness of my muzzle!

I will tell the people I make my agents here to advise Fletcher, Alexander & Co., by what ship the boxes of China articles will be sent.

The troops are nearly all in camp at a place called Kowloon, on the opposite side of the harbour, on the mainland. The camp is very picturesque. Photographers, 'Illustrated London News' sketchers, and others are sketching and photographing as hard as they can, and idle Hong-Kongites spend their leisure hours there, gaping in wonder at the wild-looking Punjabee Cavalry. John Chinaman looks indifferently on as if he had been accustomed to it all his life. When you say to men better informed than their fellows, that we are going against Pekin, they shake their heads, and look knowing, as much as to say: 'Poor devils, you will all be exterminated; what can you do against the Chinese Emperor?' Lord Elgin is expected here in a few days. I should like to go to Macao (which is only 30 miles off), but fear I shall be unable to get away before we embark. It is looked on as the Brighton of Hong-Kong.

I am sorry that Colonel Murray is to garrison Canton with his regiment[1] instead of going to the north. It will be very annoying to him, as he commands one of the finest regiments in the service. On his own account, I regret he is not going to the north, as he looked forward to rewards as some recompense for parting with his nice wife. I told you in my last letter that I liked my General and his staff. The climate, Pekin-ward, is said to be very good; only about six weeks of hot weather. Hong-Kong is too closed in to be healthy, but, as far as regards myself, I never was better. The opposite side of the harbour is healthy, and so is Canton said to be, so I am inclined to think that the insalubrity of Hong-Kong is attributable more to the site of the town than to the general unhealthiness of this part of the country.

I will keep this open until to-morrow, in case I have anything further to say to you.

6th.—Nothing further to add. Kindest love.

Ever your affectionate son,

G. ALLGOOD.

[1] 87th Foot.

Letter XII.

Hong-Kong: 6th May, 1860.

My dear General,—You will like to hear all I can tell you about the movements of the expedition.

The divisions were formed a few days ago.

1st Division (Sir John Michel).

Artillery and Engineers.

Desborough's Battery R. A.
Barry's Battery R. A. (Armstrongs)
10th Co. R. Engineers.

1st Brigade Infantry (Brigadier Staveley).

1st Royal Regiment
31st Foot
Loodiana Regiment (Sikh).

2nd Brigade (Brigadier Sutton).

2nd Queen's
60th Rifles (2nd Battalion)
15th Punjab Infantry.

2nd Division (Sir Robert Napier).

Artillery and Engineers.

Mowbray's Battery R. A.
Govan's „ R. A.
23rd Co. R. Engineers.

3rd Brigade (Brigadier Jephson).

3rd Buffs
44th Foot
8th Punjab Infantry.

4th Brigade (Brigadier Reeves).

67th Foot.
99th „
11th Punjab Infantry.
19th „ „

Cavalry Brigade (Brigadier Pattle).

1st Dragoon Guards
1st Sikh Cavalry
Fane's Horse
Milward's Battery (Armstrong guns).

Artillery Reserve.

Ratton's, Beddingfield's, and Pennycuick's Batteries Royal Artillery, and 2 Batteries Mountain Train Madras Artillery.

Engineer Reserve.

Hd. Qtrs and ½ 8th Co. R. Engineers.
Company Royal Engineers.
2 Cos. Madras Sappers.

Each Brigade will thus have a Battery of Artillery attached, and each Division a company of Engineers.

In regard to Land Transport arrangements I can merely say that the corps is to consist of 3 battalions of 4 companies each. Each company to consist of 1 officer with a proportion of non-commissioned officers and men from the Military Train, 125 drivers, Chinese, Indian, or Manilla men, and 375 pack animals. All the officers, N.-C. officers, and privates to be mounted.

In addition to this, there is the Chinese Coolie Corps, which is being augmented as fast as possible. I have no means of knowing what number of pack animals are collected, or what numbers of coolies have been enrolled. I believe that the land transport of each regiment will, if possible, accompany it, before we land.

Our baggage (private I mean) will be the smallest possible—at any rate until we establish ourselves at Tientsin, or some place in the interior. With all the means that have been in our power for collecting transport, it would be a bad arrangement if the Commissariat fail for want of it.

The Armstrong Battery here has been horsed from drafts from other horsed batteries.

The one coming on will be horsed, I believe, by horses now coming from Bombay. Our consumption of forage will be great until we enter the interior. I am in hopes, then, that the country will afford us ample supply, as the crops will be ripening.

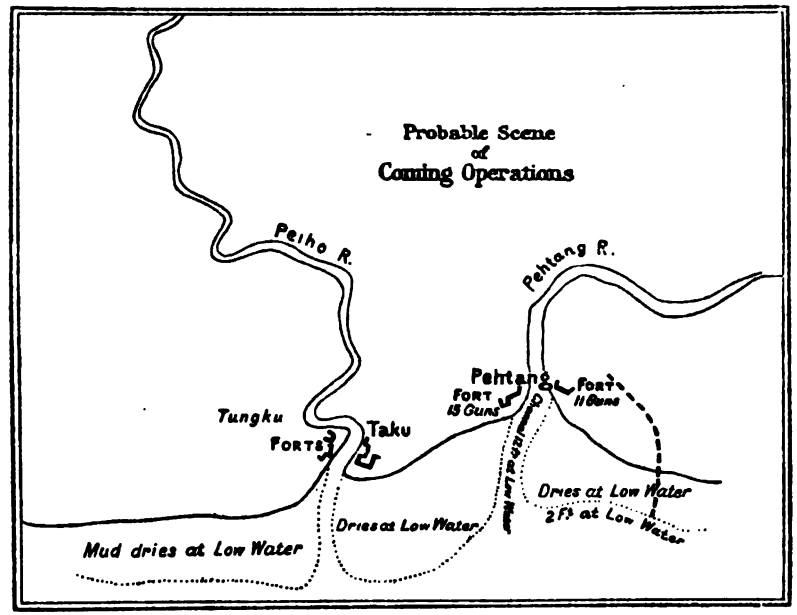
If we have to hold Tientsin or any other place during the winter, large supplies of grain and forage will be required to be stored during the summer for winter consumption.

I hear that the troops will re-embark in a week for the north, from which I infer that we shall accompany Lord Elgin (who will be here in a few days) to the north.

Our Cavalry (Indian) have landed here in capital order, with the loss of very few horses.

The Dragoon Guards are expected soon. The only troops belonging to the expedition which have not yet arrived are the Dragoon Guards (2 squads.), wing 2nd Queen's, 1 Armstrong Battery, 2 troops Fane's Horse, Head-Quarters 15th Punjab Infantry, 11th Punjab Infantry.

All these are expected soon—some of them daily. We have leased from the Chinese Government a bit of land on the mainland, called 'Kowloon.' It is very cool and healthy, and affords good encamping ground for nearly all of the troops. We should buy it for good, for its advantages are manifest. Without it we should have had to keep men and horses on board ship.



All the troops are in excellent health and spirits. The weather at Hong-Kong is still very cool. The

rains, however, will be on us soon, and on that account the sooner we can get on board our ships the better. There are some five large French Transports in harbour. Report says that they have failed in procuring Land Transport to any extent.

I hear that Sir Hope Grant did not like Chusan, and that it is now in contemplation to occupy, in lieu of it, the small Island of Pootoo, garrisoning it with half a Battery of Madras Mountain Train and three Companies of Punjab Infantry. If this be the case it will release the 67th and 99th Foot, which now hold Chusan. The plans are doubtless matured, but not being behind the scenes I cannot give you any correct idea of what our operations will be.

Love to Bessie and all the boys and girls.

Yours affectionately,

G. ALLGOOD.

I enclose a little sketch of what will shortly be our probable landing-place in the coming operations; the thick line - - - - - marks it. There is a sandy spot favourable for the operation. We should thus turn the Pehtang Forts, and after that the Taku Forts. From all I have heard and read I think that the landing will likely be about the point indicated.

LETTER XIII.

Hong-Kong: 16th May, 1860.

My dear Mother,—This must be but a short letter, as I am busy, morning, noon, and night, in embarking troops for the north, and we (our Divisional Staff) will be off in a day or two. I will keep this open until the last moment. I am as well as can be, and very glad that we are so soon to be off. I believe the French are anything but as prepared as we are, but hope they won't keep us waiting, as every day of the summer weather is valuable. Our troops are all in now, with the exception of some of the Dragoon Guards, and a Battery (Arthur Harrison's) of Armstrong guns. I continue to like my Chief.[1] He is *an excellent soldier*.

News there is none. Twelve days should see us in the Gulf of Pecheli after we start. Hong-Kong was never before so full of ships as it is now. The harbour is crowded with vessels of war, and transports of all sorts. I got your last letter just after I had written, also one from Jim. I fear I shall be away before the next mail comes. Lord Elgin came not, after all.

17*th May*.—We go on board to-day, so I can't write any more. I have been so busy attending to embarkations, &c., that I have been unable to write you a longer letter. We go up in the ship 'Alfred'—a most comfortable vessel. I am about to go over with the horses to Stanley, about seven miles off, on the other side of the island, to embark the 60th Rifles and our steeds. The General, &c., come round with the baggage in a gunboat. So good-bye. I will write on all opportunities, but you must not expect

[1] General Sir J. Michel.

great regularity, as I may not have the means of sending letters very often. Best love to all.

Your affectionate son,

G. ALLGOOD.

LETTER XIV.

Ship 'Alfred,' Yellow Sea: June 12, 1860.

My dear Mother,—An opportunity will likely occur on our arriving in the Gulf of Pecheli to send off letters, and that I may not be quite unprepared I will write occasionally (journal style), and thus be able to close and despatch it at a moment's notice. My last short letter from Hong-Kong told you that we were about to sail. We left on 19th July. For the first two or three days we had adverse winds, and made but little way. The end of the first week found us about one good day's run from Hong-Kong.

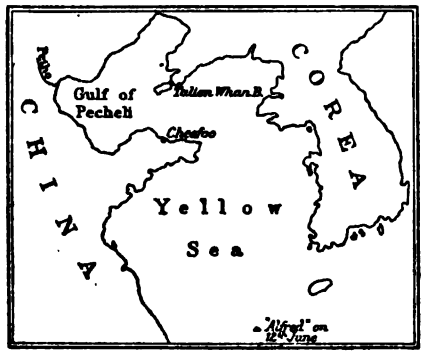
Do take up the map of China, and follow our course.

We had got half-way through the Formosa Channel when a gale from N.E. arose, and for a whole week we were tossed about between the island and the mainland without seeing the sun. We were unable to ascertain our position, and with the high sea running could only lay to and beat about on short tacks. At the end of the week we found ourselves about fifty miles nearer Hong-Kong than when the storm began! Seventeen vessels with troops, and two war steamers as chaperons, all started together from Hong-Kong; but after the first day we had all separated—to reunite I trust, in a few days at Talien-Whan Bay, at the entrance of the Gulf of Pecheli. Our chaperons might just as well have been in Hong-Kong. They were not allowed to steam, and will probably reach the rendezvous last of all. The China Sea is always a nasty, capricious sea, and has not improved its reputation on this occasion. The wind hardly ever blows for more than a few hours at a time from the same direction, hence our course has been a very zigzag one. During the last few days we have got on better, and the weather, which was foggy and squally, has cleared up.

The navigation is difficult, as the sea is not well known. Fogs frequently come on, and the currents run in strange directions. Yesterday we crossed a wonderful current about two miles in width, running with very great velocity. We were at the time opposite the mouth of the mighty river Yangtse-kiang, but about one hundred miles from the shore. The current, it was supposed, was in some way caused by it. The captain had never witnessed a similar occurrence.

We are now ploughing the green waters of the 'Yellow Sea' north of Chusan. Why it is called Yellow I cannot divine. Yellow it is not, but a rather muddy green, consequent on its shallowness. The temperature is low. For the last two days the thermometer has stood at 64°, and this in the middle of June! I have not felt a hot day since I have

been in China. We are now as cool as it would be in the English Channel in a N.E. wind. We are not at present far from the coast of Japan. I think I told you that the English rendezvous at Talien-Whan Bay; the French at Cheefoo. We suppose that the rest of the expedition started a week after us, so that it is to be hoped that they escaped the gale, and will be at Talien-Whan as soon as we are. As soon as the fleet has collected we shall, I take it, make a descent on the Peiho. All our arrangements, however, depend on circumstances—the French, Lord Elgin, &c. The 'Alfred' is very comfortable, and the Captain a very superior sailor. Elkington and I chum together. The more I know of General Michel the more I like him. After what I have heard of the heat of China, I have been surprised at the coolness of the climate up to this time. Perhaps I may yet call it hot; however, to get into the middle of June without a hot day is certainly great gain. All of us appreciate warm clothing.



We have on board the Head-Quarters and about 400 men of the 2nd Battalion 60th Rifles.

I shall be so glad to get home after all my wanderings. I hope you will very soon get the boxes of Canton things which I sent home by the ship 'Carnatic,' consigned to the care of Alexander, Fletcher & Co. You will have received the bill of lading which I sent you. Two other boxes will follow, and will be forwarded by Messrs. Jardine & Co. at Hong-Kong. One of them contains the very best China tea to be procured in China. It was bought by the greatest tea-buyer at Canton, with whom I was staying when I was there.

I shall strain every nerve to visit Japan before I leave these regions.

There must unavoidably be uncertainty in the regularity of steamers running to Hong-Kong from the Peiho, and they are sure to arrive just after the English steamer has left. Don't be anxious if you do not hear very regularly from me. At least two mails have arrived from England since I left Hong-Kong, and I am in hopes that letters will be awaiting my arrival at Talien-Whan Bay. This bay, which I have mentioned more than once, affords good anchorage and protection from storms, but *not a blessed thing* but fresh water is to be had on land. The whole coast about there is uncultivated, barren, wild, and desolate. As usual, the French rendezvous holds out brighter prospects. The country is rich and populous, but the harbour not quite so good.

What a change from the scorching heat of burnt-up India! But I will not speak ill of India, for

amongst the happiest days I have ever spent were those passed in Kashmir and the Himalayas. This time last year I was still out on those dear mountains following the wild ibex, and as happy, though alone, as the day was long.

But much as I like India, I love dear old home far more, and with a still stronger love from my long, long absence.

The last time I saw Probyn, the day before I sailed, he desired his kindest regards to you all. Dear old Peter Lumsden got to Hong-Kong a day or two before I sailed, but I shall meet him, I hope, in a day or two.

Ship 'Alfred,' Talien-Whan Bay: 18th June.

We got in yesterday about noon. About twenty ships were anchored in the harbour. Neither Sir Hope Grant nor the Admiral has arrived. The former was waiting for Lord Elgin at Hong-Kong, but he may be here any day. Ships are coming in fast. Yesterday six; to-day, up to 11 A.M., six more have dropped in. It is a bleak-looking spot, but a country I always love, as it is wild and hilly. A few scattered villages here and there dot the landscape. I landed yesterday to see about making arrangements for water. It is scarce; and I believe we *must* be off before very long, even if circumstances make it desirable for us to stay. So much the better, say I. Every day after we are assembled is valuable to us.

The people here put me in mind of the Tartars I have seen in Tibet out shooting. Weather cool and pleasant. Thermometer averaging about 68° daily. The bay is large and roomy, and well sheltered from all sides except the east.

Colonel Haythorne's[1] appointment is done away with, and he has been made Adjutant-General of Queen's troops in India.

Young Burrell, son of Mr. Burrell of Broome Park, is a middy on board our ship. I did not find out until this morning that he was Northumbrian. He is an exceedingly fine lad, and much liked. I had a long talk with him about you all. It is strange meeting him out here, and being on board the same ship. He is looking strong and well, and the ship's officers think him a very promising lad. Mr. Burrell will be glad to hear I have met him. I found your letter of April 8th, and another letter from Bessie awaiting me here. I am so glad to hear you are all well.

Admiral Hope may be in hourly. I believe, a couple of days after all have arrived, we can arrange everything and start. We are about 200 miles from the mouth of the Peiho. Report says they have a large Tartar army to meet us. The more the merrier! How we shall walk into them! I must close.

Ever your affectionate son,

G. ALLGOOD.

[1] Afterwards General Sir Edmund Haythorne, K.C.B., Adjutant-General in India.

Letter XV.[1]

Ship 'Alfred,' Talien-Whan Bay: June 20th, 1860.

Dear General,—I have not much news of interest to give you. Up to this date about one third of the fleet has arrived here; the rest may be expected within two or three days, as we have news that all had left Hong-Kong the 9th, and nearly all of them were being towed. Neither Sir H. Grant nor Admiral Hope has arrived. We can't stay here long, as water is scarce. We have large parties on shore daily, improving the watering-places and digging wells, but with all this we cannot expect to obtain more than the daily consumption of the fleet. The troops are generally healthy. The bay will hold 1,000 vessels if need be, and is pretty well sheltered except from the east. I cannot understand why the water was not looked to closely before we came here. The story going about is that Admiral Hope knew deuced well there was no water here, and for that reason fixed on it as our rendezvous, knowing that we must commence operations without delay or die of thirst!

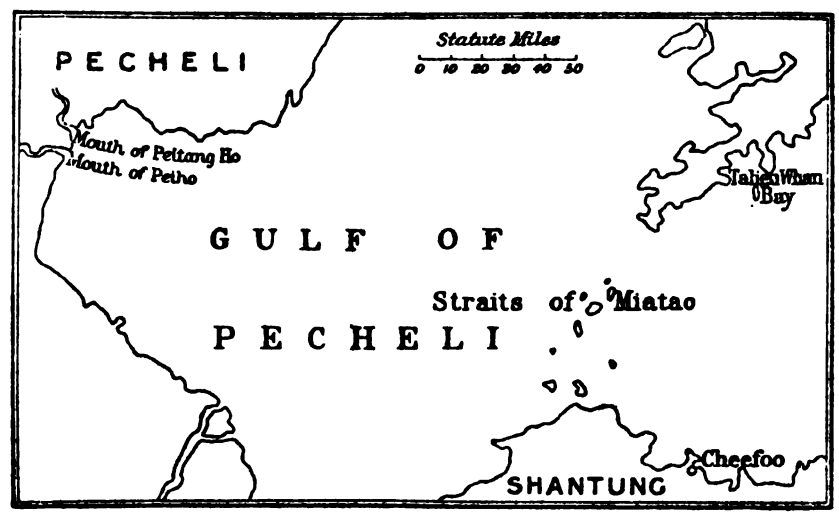
You know, of course, that Colonel Haythorne has gone as Adjutant-General to India. I think the appointment of Chief of the Staff to be most useless and obstructive, if the Chief has a head of his own. I don't believe that anybody who has a head of his own and thought for himself would have one, if he could help it. It is surely much more satisfactory doing business with Heads of Departments direct than through the medium of a third party.

We hear on the best authority that the French have lost almost all their gun ammunition, as the vessel containing it was wrecked off Amoy. There was little or no money, no shoes, and very little of anything by all accounts!

I enclose a rough sketch showing the position of Talien-Whan Bay and Cheefoo; the former is not marked in most maps. More hereafter.

Yours affectionately,

G. Allgood.



[1] To General Eyre.

Letter XVI.[1]

Ship 'Alfred,' Talien-Whan Bay: June 18th, 1860.

My dear Bessie,—I found your letter of April 2nd, as well as one from dear mother, awaiting me on my arrival here yesterday.

I thought, dear Bessie, that the photograph of your dear boy's grave had been made since the monument had been put up, otherwise I would have given you a more detailed description of it. It is raised at least four feet, perhaps more, from the ground, and the thick, heavy stone is laid flat on it, the inscription—

VINCENT EDWARD EYRE,
Naval Cadet,
H.M.S. 'Calcutta.'
Died February 10th, 1858,
aged 14 years.

facing upwards. There is no head-stone. The tomb is built of granite, and will last for ages. The burial-ground is very full of tombs, and there are several close to your boy's grave, but a few feet off it, and in no way touching it. There are no flowers growing beside it—wild flowers there are, but nothing else; but the spot is very pretty. I do not recollect ever having seen a prettier spot than the grave-yard in the 'Happy Valley.' The first day I went to search for it I could not find it, as the inscription is not seen unless you go up to the tomb and look down on it. I was more successful the next time, as Colonel Haythorne told me where it was. I shall try to get a photograph of it before I leave China. You may rest assured it is perfectly secure—as secure as massive granite can make it.

We left Hong-Kong on the 19th May. The weather was very cool all the time I was there—viz. five weeks. There was little or no sickness among the troops, but the place was very damp, and I could fancy was very unhealthy later in the season. Since we left Hong-Kong the weather has been finer still, with exception of a week's gale in the Formosa Channel. The thermometer for the last week has never risen above 68°. After hot India one appreciates it. The coast here is bleak and wild; in winter the sea is frozen near shore, and all covered with snow. The people I saw when I went ashore yesterday put one strongly in mind of the Tibetans I have met out shooting far away in the interior of the Himalayas on the Chinese frontiers. About thirty ships have arrived, and others are coming in hourly. Sir H. Grant and the Admiral are still behind; the former was waiting for Lord Elgin at Hong-Kong.

I will make the acquaintance of Captain Goodenough[1] and Colonel Gascoigne if I chance to meet them.

This climate as yet agrees with me very well; thank God, nearly all climates do, though I don't relish the plains of India in the summer. I like Sir

[1] To Mrs. Eyre.

[1] Afterwards Commodore Goodenough, R.N.

J. Michel *very* much, and I see he is a first-rate officer. We are well off for Generals of Division, but I think our Brigadiers won't shine! There is, perhaps, one exception. How is my big god-daughter?

Love to all. Ever, dear Bessie,

Your affectionate brother,

G. ALLGOOD.

LETTER XVIIA.

Talien-Whan: July 8th, 1860.

My dear Mother,—Here we are encamped, waiting for the French. We have been here three weeks, and from what I hear we shall be here until the 20th *at least*. It is true we are losing most glorious campaigning weather in inactivity, but I suppose we must do it, or we should break the 'entente cordiale' which is supposed to exist between us and our gallant allies. The French are at Cheefoo.

It strikes me that our arrangements are not so good as they should be when the advantages we have had in having had so much time for our preparations are taken into consideration. I mean more especially relating to our Commissariat and land transport arrangements. Our Division is encamped on the west of the bay, the 2nd Division on the north-east, and the Cavalry and Artillery on the south-east. We are thus divided from the rest of the force—ten miles off at least; this is occasioned by the scarcity of water. We have, however, improved the watering-places by sinking wells, &c. Arthur Harrison's Battery is on the other side, so I have had no opportunity of seeing him. Peter Lumsden is now with Sir R. Napier's Division, and Probyn with the Cavalry, both a long way off. Our climate is delicious: nothing could be better; our army healthy, and, I think, ready for work. We are in the same latitude as the Peiho, and it cannot be very much warmer there. As to the winter, Mr. Gibson, our Chinese Interpreter, who was in this bay in February last, says the thermometer never reached more than 18° below freezing point, and there was no snow on the ground then. The sea, however, was frozen out for about half a mile from the shore, so, if we have to remain the winter in the north, I have no doubt but that we shall be very snug.

Lord Elgin was wrecked in the P. & O. steamer at Galle. He is expected here daily. We know no more than you do, till he arrives, whether we are to approach the Peiho in the first instance pacifically or not. Perhaps we may endeavour to treat before landing. For my part, I sincerely hope not, as when we have to land they would be fully prepared to meet us, and time would be lost in referring the matter to Pekin.

Our descent on the coast should be, I think, sudden, and we should then probably be enabled to effect a landing without being molested. On such a coast it would be most desirable, as our ships can't

approach within several miles on account of its being so shallow, and it will be a tedious business landing our stores and horses.

I got your letter dated May 8th, but the previous one, which came in the steamer that was lost, has not come yet. I hear, however, that all our letters are being dried, and that we shall get them in a day or two.

Your letter told me that you were on the point of going south. I should not wonder at all if you see me before the winter is over. I shall come, you may depend on it, as soon as I can, for I am as anxious to come as you all are.

I sent a box of Simla shawls from Simla, which you should have got at the same time as the ibex heads, &c. I hope it has turned up. I know I can get nothing for this China affair, but as I am here I must work my best. My horses are in very fair condition, but *horse-shoes* are scarce and it does not do riding them too hard. We have made a few excursions about eight miles inland, and I have been sketching in the country round about. I don't doubt but that Peter has been doing the same on the other side. Probyn has lost two of his best horses on the voyage; he will be in despair about it.

I was sure you would all like Macbean. I am very fond of him, and so must everyone who knows him well. I hope you will get him to visit you at The Hermitage before he goes out again. It is a pity I cannot be at home to introduce my friends, isn't it?

Probyn, Macbean, Sam Browne, and Peter are my best friends. You would like Browne and Peter just as well as you like the others.

I am so much obliged to Jim and Ella for asking Macbean.

We live in bell tents—tents only fit for a cool climate; you have to keep your hat on, as the sun beats through them. They are widely different from our comfortable, cool tents of India. It is a necessity, however, for Indian tents are too heavy for moving about in a country in which transport is scarce.

I like the General more and more. He is such a nice person, and a most excellent soldier—in my mind, the best I have served under. Elkington, his Aide-de-Camp, I like much.

When we land at the Peiho we shall have to rough it a bit. I intend to take with me merely a change of clothes and a blanket. It is very little warmer than it was at Torquay the year I was at home, and the nights are quite as cool.

You will see that Lord Clyde has gone home. I am glad of it. A letter from Bombay reports that General Mansfield was dangerously ill from jungle fever. Whatever those in authority may think of him, I can only say I wish he commanded this expedition. He has great energy, is very clever, and, besides, has a strong will of his own.

If anything happened to Sir Hope Grant, Sir J. Michel would succeed, and in him we should have a real good man.

10*th*.—Lord Elgin arrived yesterday. It is stated that he is all for bold measures, and that he will make us take the Taku forts before he attempts to negotiate. I hope that such will be his policy, for I am convinced that it is the only policy that will succeed.

The Head-Quarter ship has gone to Cheefoo to-day, when they will arrange with the French as to future operations. They say that they will be ready by the 23rd. I'll bet a thousand that their arrangements in regard to Transport and Commissariat are good.

The Royal officers ever speak disparagingly of the French. I have heard exceptions, amongst whom are Lord Clyde, General Mansfield, and a few others, and I am much more inclined to trust in the opinion of the minority. I shall be able to form a better opinion hereafter.

I heartily wish the whole expedition had been organised and despatched from India, with all stores, transport, and commissariat. I am sure we should have done much better. I know what we can do in India, for we have been accustomed to war perpetually for the last thirty-five years.

After we land, *there may be* no means of despatching letters for some days, so you must not be anxious. Lord Elgin will probably advance direct on Tientsin before he attempts to negotiate, and if Chinese ambassadors don't meet him there, he will push his advance on the capital.

I have written to Eyre.

Best love to Annie, and all of them.

Your affectionate son,

G. ALLGOOD.

LETTER XVIIB.[1]

Talien-Whan: July 10th, 1860.

Dear General,—I believe we shall be away from this place by 20th–25th. It is reported that the French will be ready by 23rd. They are now engaged in training their artillery horses and adjusting their harness.

As far as concerns ourselves, the army is healthy, and the horses in very fair condition for work. Our land transport arrangements will not, I fear, be complete. Glanders has thinned the number of our ponies, and many expected ere this from Japan have not come to hand.

Our coolies are some thousands fewer in number than we anticipated, and there has been a tendency to sickness amongst them, which I think was principally caused by an inefficient ration. It has now been remedied.

Lord Elgin arrived yesterday.

It is stated that we are to take the Taku Forts before negotiation. It is the proper policy, and will

[1] To General Eyre.

enable us to make favourable terms all the quicker. There was a report last night on board the Admiral's ship that the Taku Forts had been abandoned, and that the Tartars had determined to make a stand at Tientsin. I can hardly credit this story, as the Taku Forts are decidedly the strongest position they have in the country.

By all accounts Tientsin, as a town, is indefensible; its walls are crumbling and dilapidated.

It is very little warmer here than England, and perfectly dry. If Pecheli is like it, the months of July and August, instead of being, as generally accepted, too hot for military operations, must be the most glorious campaigning months it is possible to conceive.

It is a pity so much fine weather has been lost, and as we are commencing so late we should certainly be fully prepared for a winter at Tientsin. We may probably get away before it sets in, but our preparations for a winter cantonment in regard to supplies and clothing should not be delayed.

By landing the troops and horses the ships have been watered. This would never have been accomplished had the troops remained on board.

12*th*.—Mail closes to-day. Sir H. Grant returned from Cheefoo yesterday, having had an interview with the French Commander-in-Chief.

It sounds all very fine to say that we have been waiting for the French. I believe the French to be as ready as we are. *We* certainly are not as regards Land Transport, however ready we may be on other points.

Next time you hear from me there will be a more interesting tale to tell. Love to Bessie and all.

Yours affectionately,

G. ALLGOOD.

LETTER XVIIIA.

Camp, Talien-Whan Bay: July 20th, 1860.

Dear Mother,—We shall probably be off before this letter goes. I believe that we shall commence to embark about the 23rd; this letter shall be kept open till the last moment. We have spent a most pleasant month in camp, and are all the better for our run, both men and horses. You can conceive nothing more delightful than the climate has been for a gipsying kind of life—dry, with a cool fresh breeze.

My dear old friend, Peter Lumsden, was nearly drowned the other day. He had a most providential escape. He was sent on duty in a boat, a sudden squall came on, the boat upset about four miles from land. He and another officer that was with him held on to the bottom of the boat for about two hours. The accident took place about five o'clock in the afternoon; at seven they struck off for land. Peter reached it about midnight, but the other poor fellow[1] has never been heard of since. Peter was

[1] Lieut. Gordon, Madras Engineers.

cast on a rocky shore, a good deal bruised, but in a day or two was all right again. He slept until morning on the beach, then paddled himself across an inlet of the bay, about two miles wide, and appeared in camp at eleven o'clock on the following morning, after everyone had given him up as lost! The three sailors could not swim, held on to the bottom of the boat, and were afterwards picked up by a passing boat.

I got your letter of May 25th, written from Brighton. It must be much altered since I was there about fifteen years ago, before I went out to India! I am going on board the Head-Quarters ship in a few minutes, and may be able to give you some news, for they have returned from Cheefoo (the French rendezvous) this morning.

It is generally supposed that we shall get over the campaign and be away before the cold weather sets in, but about this no one's opinion is worth a straw.

Signor Beato (the same artist who took the photographs I sent home from Calcutta) is with us, and is busily employed in photographing.

I don't suppose the amalgamation will do me either harm or good; so much depends on the arrangements consequent on it. As soon as they are arranged I shall be able to see my way better.

July 22nd.—The ponies, &c., of the land transport embarked yesterday. The two Divisions of Infantry embark on the 24th; the Cavalry on the 23rd and 24th. I believe the expedition sails on the 26th for the Peiho. By the 30th or 31st I hope we shall have the Taku Forts in our possession. The troops are in good health and spirits. It may be some time, perhaps, before you hear from me, but depend on it I will lose no opportunity of writing.

The people have quite regained confidence here, and bring in for sale all sorts of things. We buy pigs, fowls, eggs, &c., in hundreds. The apricot, peach, apple and pear thrive here. I shall be almost sorry to say good-bye to our comfortable quarters.

Young Burrell sends his salaam to Hunter and Jem. I gave him a ride on my pony this morning and he seemed to enjoy it. I have not seen Arthur Harrison[1] yet. Crealock[2] is with Lord Elgin. I shall have a busy time of it during the next three day embarking troops.

I shall write a few lines to the General at Chatham.

The 'Alfred' takes us up to the Peiho.

Pekin for ever! I long to see the Imperial city, and its seldom-seen wonders.

Nothing would be more agreeable to me than to return home by the Amoor and Siberia; or by Japan, California, Isthmus of Panama, New York, &c.!

[1] Afterwards Colonel Harrison, R.A.

[2] Military Secretary to Lord Elgin, afterwards Major-General Crealock, C.B., C.M.G.

I have told Becher[1] that I intend (D.V.) returning direct from China.

I have no time to write to Jim or Ella. I owe them a letter or two. But give my best love. A longer letter next time must make up for my shortcomings on this occasion. Best of loves to all.

Ever your affectionate son,

G. ALLGOOD.

When will Willy's Oxford life be over?

LETTER XVIIIB.[2]

Talien-Whan: July 23rd, 1860.

My dear General,—The Land Transport animals were embarked yesterday. The 2nd Division of Infantry embark to-morrow. The Artillery and Cavalry embark to-day and to-morrow. It is said we sail on the 26th. I must post this letter before we leave. Probably a fast steamer reporting our debarkation near the Peiho will catch the mail before it leaves Hong-Kong. But, by it, I don't imagine anyone except the 'powers that be' will be allowed to send letters. We leave as a depôt at this place 100 Artillerymen with the material of a 9-pounder Battery, Head-Quarters and 7 companies 99th, Head-Quarters and 6 companies 19th Punjab Infantry.

We take on with us:—

5 Horse Batteries, 2 of which are Armstrongs.
1½ Pony Mountain Train Batteries.
2 Siege Companies of Artillery.
1 Squadron Dragoon Guards.
Probyn's Horse.
Fane's Horse.
8 Companies Royal Engineers.
230 Madras Sappers.

1st Division Infantry.
1st Royals.
31st Foot.
2nd Queen's.
60th Rifles.
15th Punjab Infantry.

2nd Division.
3rd Buffs.
44th Foot.
67th Foot.
19th Punjab Infantry.

Talien-Whan is an excellent place for an army to rendezvous at before operating in the North of China. The climate in summer is unexceptionable, and there is any quantity of fodder for feeding up our horses and cattle. The people are friendly. By good arrangement we might secure a good deal of land transport. Donkeys are very plentiful, and mules and ponies tolerably so. Cattle might be procured in considerable numbers. We have not in any way taken advantage for increasing our Land Transport! The expedition will leave Talien Whan in health. The horses are in prime condition.

A reconnaissance of a few Gunboats with an Engineer officer left this a day or two ago. We shall have a full moon and high tides for our debarkation. I will give you an account of our operations on the Peiho. If we are towed we should be off the Peiho in 36 hours after leaving this. If we are not, all will depend on the wind.

Good-bye; love to Bessie and the children.

Yours affectionately,

G. ALLGOOD.

[1] Quartermaster-General in India, afterwards General Sir Arthur M. Becher, K.C.B., &c.

[2] To General Eyre.

Letter XIXa.

Head-Quarters, 1st Division, Town of Peitang:
6th August, 1860.

My dear Mother,—I have time only for a very few lines. I am quite well. We landed at 4 P. M. on the 1st, on the mud, about 2,000 yards below the Peitang Forts. We turned the Forts with a Brigade of our Division and the French Force, and during the night occupied a narrow causeway on which we lay, leading from the town to the country. The smell unbearable; no place can be conceived as more likely to produce fever and ague than that night's bivouac. The tide overflows all the country on the land side but this causeway, consequently the enemy were virtually cut off from escape by land. Our Gunboats did not go up the river as they should have done that evening, thus leaving open an escape by the junks in the river. But I firmly believe that the garrison which occupied it was mere detachments, as they never fired a shot. I think the thing was as badly managed as most things of the kind generally are. The next morning we occupied the town, the French occupying one half, the English the other. The town holds a population of probably 20,000 or 25,000 souls. It is dirty beyond expression, but there are some good houses in it. We have since been landing our troops as hard as we can, and still continue.

Military stores, heavy ordnance, and commissariat stores of all sorts crowd the wharf. In vain do we attempt to better our streets—heavy rain has fallen twice, which has made the mud deeper than ever. On landing here the eye is struck with the numerous small tumuli, resembling in shape bell tents, which cover the ground for miles. These are all graves; outside Taku the whole place is covered with them.

We shall advance on the 8th or 9th. The accompanying sketch will explain our position, and the line of our advance. The Tartars are in great strength. A reconnaissance of English and French went out two days ago. They ascertained that the enemy held an entrenched post, in strength, at the end of the causeway. This must be captured before we advance on the Peiho Forts. We shall probably debouch on firmer ground after we capture this Fort, and obtain a supply of water, as a stream, said to contain good water, flows past it. When this has been done I don't think we shall have much difficulty in attacking the Peiho Forts.

Our country, up to the first entrenched position, is difficult, as we have only a narrow causeway to move along, and, until we get water on ahead, our water will have to be drawn from the rear. The weather is warmer than it was at Talien, and the country does not look nearly so promising for military operations.

I received your letter of June 8th, and one from Jim and Ella. Let them see this letter, as the sketch

will show him what we are doing. I am so hard up for time that I cannot spare time to add another line.

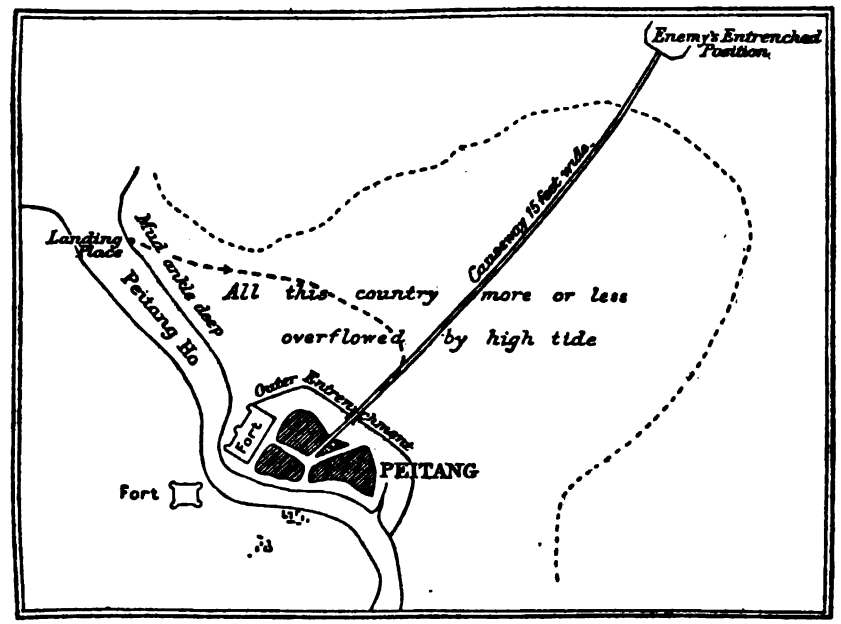
Best love to all. Also send this to the General and Bessie, for I have no time to write.

Ever your affectionate son,

G. ALLGOOD.

shoots (that I sent home from Kashmir to you). Its perfume is delicious. I remember the flowering pink one you enclosed to me. It would look well planted out on a grassy lawn.

Two Chinese ambassadors with a flag of truce have just come in to Lord Elgin.



8th August.—The mail does not leave until to-morrow night. We advance on the morning of the 10th.

I have written to the General. Tell Jim and Ella I am so glad Macbean has been with them.

The rose I want you to see flowering is the white clustering Kashmir rose with the long creeping

Tell the Harrisons that I have just seen Arthur looking as well and as strong as a man can look. I am so sorry to hear that his sister Ann[1] is still so far from well.

[1] Afterwards Lady Topham.

We shall be hard at it when the boys are shooting on the moors at Chirdon. Our shooting will be rather sharper work than theirs, and not quite so agreeable.

My horses are well; and I managed to loot a fine mule here, to carry my baggage, which my second horse would have otherwise had to have carried. This will give me two horses for work.

I sketched the roads through the gardens, on the other side of the river, and enjoyed the fruit immensely.

Letter XIXb.[1]

Peitang: August 6th, 1860.

My dear General,—We effected a landing at the mouth of the Peitang-Ho on the 1st of August at 4 P.M.

The early part of the day was wasted. The enclosed sketch shows our landing place, and direction of advance. We landed one Brigade, the French the greater part of their Infantry. The town and fort were evidently abandoned, as not a shot was fired. By evening we occupied the causeway, cutting off communication from the fort and town on the land side.

We should have occupied the town, instead of bivouacking on the causeway. During the night the Fort was entered by two or three people, and found abandoned. The next morning we occupied the town, the French occupying one half, the English the other. On the following day a strong reconnoitring party of English and French went out. They returned after making the Tartars show themselves in considerable numbers. We found them entrenched at the end of the causeway; lost some ten men wounded. Since then the whole of the 1st Division has been landed; the 2nd Division is now landing, and all the Cavalry and Artillery will have landed by this evening; to-morrow our Land Transport. In about two days we shall move ahead and force their entrenchment, from whence it is believed we shall see our way clearly to the Peiho Forts, and debouch on a country better adapted for military operations, and containing plenty of fresh water. The Tartar Cavalry are said to be very numerous. The whole country surrounding Peitang is overflowed more or less by high tide, and the ground is very muddy. Peitang contains about 25,000 souls; in it we found a good deal of grain and forage. Property has suffered by our occupation. I believe the 1st Division with some French will form the advance from here. Weather warm, but not unpleasant. Army healthy. Shoes wear fast. The Chinese evidently intend to fight, and those who have lived longest amongst them say they will meet us in the open. Latterly the high tide has been shut out by making dams; these measures would probably have caused unhealthiness had we remained longer.

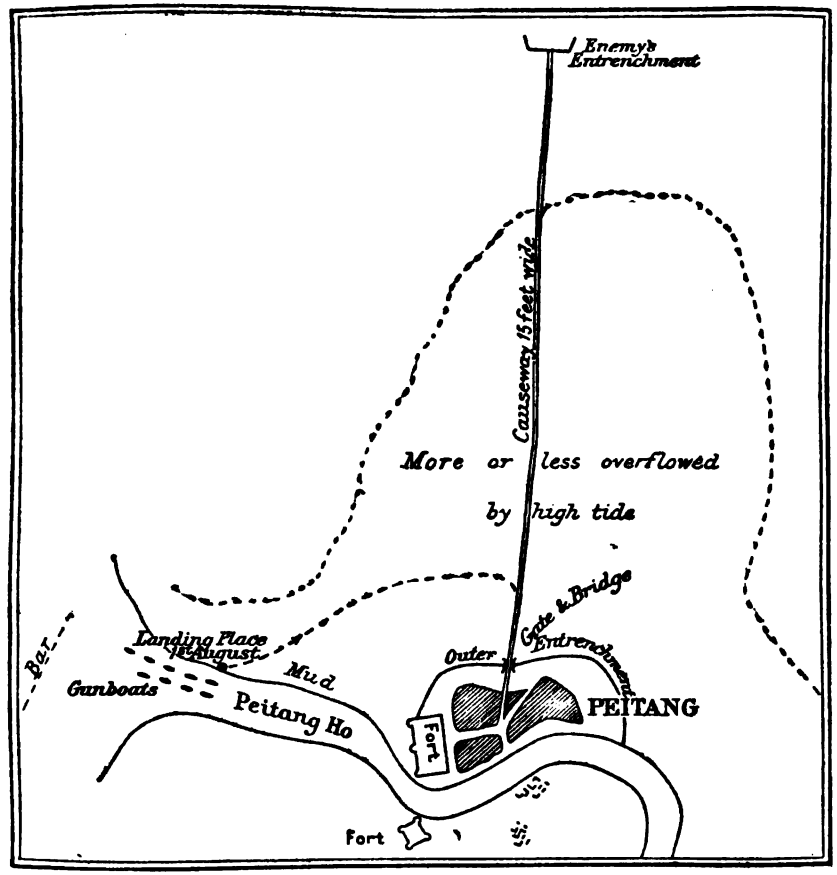
[1] To General Eyre.

The next week will be a stirring one. Our Armstrong guns will soon be tried, but we must bring our 8-inch howitzers to the front to clear the causeway. Prince Singolinsin commands the Chinese.

No time for more now. You shall hear from me again (D.V.). Love to Bessie and the children.

Yours affectionately,

G. ALLGOOD.



ROUGH SKETCH OF LANDING ON AUGUST 1.

The Russians have four Vessels of War in the offing. Our fleet is immense.

P.S.—*7th.*—After writing the above the departure of the mail was put off. I think we are making a

great mistake in crowding the whole of our Army, Artillery, Cavalry, Infantry, into this small, dirty town. We should have pushed forward a Division with some heavy guns, and first established ourselves in the enemy's entrenchment ahead of us. It would have given us room, and enabled us to bring up our Army gradually towards the Taku Forts. Moreover, our plan must be plain to the enemy, and that which might have been carried at first with little loss probably will now cost us many valuable lives.

Peitang is by far the most difficult place for an army to debouch from that I have ever seen. If it is done well, I shall call the Quartermaster-General a good one. Most probably about the 9th or 10th will be the day for a forward movement. The only and great difficulty for a forward movement on the sea-coast of Pecheli is the want of water. If we can find plenty of it fit for drinking above the Taku Forts we shall not probably be long in taking them. Every mouthful of water consumed here has to be landed by the Navy. We found a good deal in the town, but it was sadly wasted during the first two days' confusion.

8*th*.—Two Chinese Mandarins with a flag of truce have just come to Lord Elgin. I have not heard what has transpired, but whatever it may be we shall doubtless advance on Tientsin with our whole force and show the Chinese that we are able at any time to threaten Pekin.

Letter XXa.

Camp on the Peiho: August 25, 1860.

My dear Mother,—I am all safe and sound, thank God. I think the war is over, and you will see me at home in the winter. I have sent the General a sketch of our operations, and a description, and have desired him to let you see it. I have no time to enter at length into them in a second letter. We only lost at all heavily in the last affair, but it fell to a Brigade in the 2nd Division. The fighting has been easy. Sir John Michel had his horse shot on the 14th, but none of the Staff of the 1st Division have been touched. Tientsin is in our possession. I expect the 1st Division will march thither on the 27th or 28th. I hope to see Pekin soon. The 'Times' correspondent will give you a better account than I can. The 'Illustrated News' has its artist here. Beato, the famous photographer, has got several views of the fort with heaps of dead! The Chinese suffered heavily on the 21st. Sir Robert Napier did the work in style. Climate temperate. Loads of peaches, apples, pears, grapes &c. in all the gardens about. The mail closes immediately.

Best of love to you all. In haste.

Your affectionate son,

G. Allgood.

No mail in since we left Peitang.

Letter XXb.[1]

Camp on Peiho: 25th August, 1860.

My dear General,—The enclosed sketch of our operations will give you a good idea of what we have been doing. My last letter from Peitang was written previous to our moving forward.

To continue:—The 10th having been very wet and the French not being ready, our moving was put off until the 12th.

The country was heavy, but we got through the mud. We were five hours defiling out of Peitang! After what I told you of the difficulty attending such an operation you will not think we did badly. The 2nd Division and Cavalry took a track to the right half a mile beyond the town, and manœuvred on the enemy's left flank. The 1st Division, with all the French, advanced up the causeway. The Tartar Cavalry came out and attacked Sir Robert Napier with great spirit, riding close up to his guns in the face of his fire. Of course they were repulsed. (See 'Times' correspondent's account for further particulars.)

Three-quarters of a mile short of the enemy's first works the 1st Division and the French were able to deploy a considerable force. Five Batteries of Artillery in line advanced, and opened fire. In half an hour the first works were ours.

[1] To General Eyre.

The second, or those covering Sinho, were abandoned as soon as we opened fire.

We bivouacked around Sinho that night. On the night of the 13th the 1st Division bivouacked in advance of Sinho, with our right resting on the Peiho. A strong working party threw up a trench during the night within 600 yards of Tangku.

At an early hour on the 14th we advanced against Tangku. An earthen parapet, with a double ditch, surrounds it. We deployed 36 guns and two rocket Batteries, supported by Infantry. Our Artillery advanced nearer and nearer to within 300 yards, when our Rifles, who had crept up through some reeds by the river-side, effected an entrance. The enemy suffered considerably from our Artillery fire.

The Armstrong gun is *a great success*.

I have seen a French Battery of rifled cannon firing alongside them. The French guns are good, but they have not the range of ours. A French Artillery officer told a friend of mine that he was not *quite satisfied* with *his* rifled guns.

Between the 14th and 20th we were hard at work bringing up ammunition and commissariat supplies from Peitang. Our Land Transport ponies died in numbers.

The French Commander-in-Chief demurred at our attacking the Northern Forts, as he deemed them too strong. Sir Robert Napier urged that their capture would probably necessitate the abandonment of the Southern Forts. The result proved him right.

SCALE. 1 MILE = 1 INCH

OPERATIONS FROM PEITANG TO TAKU—THE LANDING AT PEITANG

On the night of the 20th Sir Robert Napier got some heavy guns and mortars into position, within easy range of Forts A and B, and made bridges across numerous ditches in his front. Our field guns deployed as at Tangku, and gradually advanced towards the Fort, our Infantry supporting them. The Chinese fire has never been good, and on this occasion nearly all their shot went over us. Their fire was all but silenced, and it was supposed that the Fort was no longer occupied. Our 44th, 67th, some Marines, and a French column advanced. A heavy fire greeted them on the edge of the outer ditch. There were two, twenty-four feet wide and deep. They were crossed by scaling ladders, after some slight delay. Abattis and sharp bamboo spikes had next to be crossed. Our men gained a footing on the parapet simultaneously with the French and the place was ours.

The Tartars fought well, and suffered very heavily. Our own loss was some 10 officers and 150 men killed and wounded. The French about the same.

A flag of truce was hoisted by the enemy.

We gave them until two o'clock to evacuate the other Fort.

At that hour we recommenced our cannonade.

The Fort was not defended when we advanced to occupy it. Eight hundred Tartars laid down their arms.

Our gunboats had shelled the outer Fort during the morning. In each Fort we exploded a powder magazine before capture.

During the evening the Southern Forts gave in.

On the 22nd the Gunboats forced the boom, and removed the stakes at the mouth of the Peiho, and anchored off Tangku.

On the 23rd, eight Gunboats advanced on Tientsin.

The Chinese Commissioners met the Admiral, and were *very, very* humble. Their scattered forces were flying towards Pekin.

Yesterday evening the 67th were taken up to Tientsin in Gunboats. The 1st Royals and an Armstrong Battery, also under orders, have not been able to follow, as the Gunboats ran ashore.

Lord Elgin and Sir Hope Grant went to Tientsin this morning.

The Cavalry Brigade started for the same place up the left bank. Our bridge of boats at Sinho is now ready.

My humble opinion is that we should have been in strength, with all our Cavalry, on the main road to Tientsin (which runs up the left bank of the river) before we stormed the Northern Forts. Escape would then have been completely cut off.

We may conclude that the war is over.

The 44th and a Battery of Artillery proceed at once to Shanghai to resist the rebels.

I hope to be at home in the winter.

Peitang is the grand key to the Peiho Forts. I wonder at their leaving the door unlocked!

Please let mother see this letter, and plan when done with, as I have no time for a long letter, or for another sketch.

Love to Bessie, and to all.

Yours affectionately,

G. ALLGOOD.

LETTER XXI.

Camp, Tientsin: September 9th, 1860.

My dear Mother,—We got here on the 1st, having had a pleasant march from Sinho.

Lord Elgin, having completed the Treaty, requested the Chinese Commissioners to sign it. They said they had no powers. Without an hour's hesitation an advance on Pekin was ordered. Yesterday, 600 Cavalry, two Batteries of Artillery, and two Regiments of Infantry commenced their march. To-morrow a French Column starts. On the 12th 400 Cavalry, a Battery of Artillery, and our 2nd Brigade of Infantry, under Sir John Michel, start. Whether any more troops follow will depend on circumstances. Lord Elgin will give them another chance at Tung-chow (one march short of Pekin); if they are still obstinate, I conclude an advance on Pekin will follow immediately. It is impossible to conjecture what turn affairs would then assume—whether the Emperor will fight again, or flee to the interior. In the latter case it is supposed that the Tartar Dynasty would terminate. Our policy would then be difficult. We must either make Pekin pay the expenses of the war or place some one in power who will treat. Of one thing I am confident, and that is, that should we return to our ships, without going on, the expedition would be fruitless. I believe the hitch is regarding the indemnity. If the Chinese signed the Treaty here and we retired, they would without doubt break it. Six or seven marches will bring us to Pekin. The 15th of next month will bring in cold weather. We must be off by that time, or be prepared to winter in the North of China. We could doubtless make ourselves comfortable enough, and in a country overflowing, as this is, with milk and honey we should have no difficulty in laying in supplies on even a short notice. Oliphant, in his books, gives a most erroneous sketch of this part of China. We could collect within five or six miles sufficient forage to last us the winter. As to livestock I cannot speak so confidently, though, to judge of the numbers of sheep and cattle for sale here, there should not be much difficulty on that head. I have, however (and I believe this opinion is shared generally), no confidence in our Commissariat. As to Tientsin itself, I must say a few words. The town and its environs have probably 200,000 inhabitants. The people carry on their occupations as if no foreign force was within 1,000 miles! We live on the fat of the land. Our market is supplied with sheep, poultry, vegetables, and delicious fruit of all kinds. Amongst these latter are included grapes, peaches, apples, and pears in profusion. Huge blocks of ice are hawked about the camp all day long. We

could even afford to give our horses iced water! The soldiers drink iced water. 'Jack Tar' has become particular, and can nohow get through his grog without his lump of ice. Our Army is in first-rate order for any service. The French play quite second fiddle, as they have no Cavalry and their Artillery ponies are all done up. Ours is perfection. The Army is healthy, and wants more fighting. A grand fight in the open and a speedy advance on Pekin would please all. We are now in our Indian tents, on a fine grassy plain two miles south of Tientsin. When we go forward we of course revert to our bell tents, and more humble mode of life. A wheelbarrow with a wheel in the centre, and Irish car-like above, is much used by the Chinese for carrying purposes; in this way one man carries as much as four men could in the ordinary way.

I got your letter of, I think, 3rd July; the one by the previous mail did not come to hand. I fully expect to get away from China by the 15th October. If opportunity offers, I will visit Japan.

I have almost determined to call for a week at Calcutta on my way home, as I should like to settle my accounts, public and private, before going home. January or February will, I hope, see me home, but to speak with certainty is impossible. I may become Emperor of China if they want someone! I have been doing a good deal of surveying work lately, and hope to sketch the road the whole way up to Pekin, as I have done up to Tientsin.

I am not writing to the General by this mail, so you can let him see this, or such parts of it as you think would interest him. Hitherto the weather has been rather warmer than English summer weather. We may expect a change soon.

Probyn and Peter Lumsden are both in camp. The former often desires me to send his kindest remembrances.

I knew you would like dear old Macbean.

Arthur Harrison is also in camp, and dines with me this evening; he puts me much in mind of his sister Ann.

We got hold of our traps here, and I have been enabled to refit. My garments were becoming rather worn and threadbare, as I had only a change.

Report has it that Singolinsin, or, as he is generally named amongst the soldiers, 'Sam Collinson,' has been disgraced. A more recent 'shave' states that he has been reinstated in the Imperial favour, and is going to fight us near Pekin. I hope he will, for our Cavalry on a fine open plain, if let loose, would make great havoc. Would that Probyn commanded them all! There would have been a different tale to tell the day we advanced from Peitang.

I am strong and well, and so are my horses.

It is a pleasanter country to campaign in than India in the summer! We hit the time off exactly, and have come in for the fruit season. Iced grapes all day long, and such bunches as you seldom see

from a hothouse at home! I trust to your getting a descriptive account of everything from the 'Times' correspondent's[1] letters. I hardly know him, but hear he is a good writer and a sensible person.

I am really losing count of all my nieces and nephews. If I tried to hazard a guess as to their numbers I know I should not be within two or three of the mark. I must end now. Give my best love to Annie and all of them.

Ever your affectionate son,

G. ALLGOOD.

LETTER XXII.

Camp, Chang-kya-wan, sixteen miles from Pekin: 20th September, 1860.

My dear Mother,—We left Tientsin on the 13th, and caught up the Commander-in-Chief at Ho-see-woo on the 15th. They had been attempting to treat with the Chinese, and Lord Elgin imagined he had come to a satisfactory arrangement. It was that we were not to advance beyond a certain place, and that there the Treaty would be signed. On the 14th we moved on about thirteen miles, and on the 15th about five miles, where we came on a large Tartar Force entrenched, blocking up our further progress. It appeared at once anything but pacific.

I must mention that on the previous day Mr. Parkes,[2] the interpreter, and some other officers (Lieut.-Col. Walker, Assistant-Quartermaster-General of the Cavalry, Asst.-Commissary Thompson, and Mr. Bowlby[3]), and an escort of twenty Sowars, with three or four Dragoons, under the command of Lieut. Anderson, of Fane's Horse, had gone to Tung-chow to arrange matters, and amongst others, where we should encamp. On returning from Tung-chow the following morning to meet us Mr. Parkes saw where the Tartar army was drawn up, and so satisfied was he that something was wrong that he returned alone to Tung-chow (distant about four miles from the enemy's position) to ask the Chinese mandarins the meaning of it. The other officers were suddenly attacked by the Tartars, but by dint of good steeds came safely within our pickets. They presently opened fire on our pickets. There being no longer any doubt as to their intentions, we formed in order of battle. Our baggage had been meanwhile compactly parked. They appeared in great force—certainly not less than 5,000 Cavalry (Mongolian) were opposed to us, and did all they could to outflank us. Probyn was opposed by great odds, but charged right through about four times his numbers. We gave them a good drubbing; a good many were killed.

Their entrenchments were turned on both right and left, and eighty guns fell into our hands. We captured the important town of Chang-kya-wan, and pushed out strong pickets on the Tung-chow road. Instead of

[1] Mr. Bowlby, afterwards one of those murdered.

[2] Afterwards Sir Harry Parkes, K.C.B., Envoy Plenipotentiary in Japan.

[3] The 'Times' correspondent.

advancing and occupying Tung-chow that night, or the next morning, *we have halted here, and don't move until to-morrow!* I can't understand it, for I should have struck when the iron was hot. The enemy, I hear, have an entrenched camp near Tung-chow, which we shall probably attack to-morrow. The large town of Tung-chow will (D.V.) fall into our hands. It is said to be a larger place than Tientsin, and has immense granaries. The Force with us consists of about two and a half Batteries of Artillery, 500 Cavalry, one company of Engineers, and 1,700 Infantry. The French have twelve guns, and perhaps 2,000 Infantry. Mr. Parkes and four other officers are in the hands of the Chinese, and, of course, great anxiety is felt regarding them. Heavy guns are on their way up to us, and flotillas with grain and supplies. Tung-chow should afford us large supplies. The Chinese have been told that if their prisoners are injured Pekin shall be sacked. I believe from their acts that they have been humbugging us all along. To-morrow we shall not be far from Pekin. We should drub a peace into them or leave our mark in Pekin and retire. No one knows what turn affairs will take. I believe there is a peace party and a war party; the latter is the stronger. We found tea in this town to the amount of 300,000*l.* All *but the tea* has been given up to plunder. The troops are healthy, and horses in good condition. We are all longing to take Pekin.

I have not received the letters by the last mail yet, but expect them daily.

Climate dry and delightful. Our time is, however, short, and it is important not a day should be lost. Till we get Tung-chow we shall have but few supplies, as we only get what the country gives, and the few the Commissariat are able to bring up.

Lord Elgin is now here, and very glad the enemy fought us yesterday. The more we lick them, the greater chance there is of a lasting peace.

Sir Robert Napier is at Tientsin.

You must excuse this hurried letter. With best love to all.

Your affectionate son,

G. ALLGOOD.

22nd September, six miles from Pekin.

I have re-opened this letter to tell you that we fought a most successful action yesterday, driving the enemy back on Pekin, with considerable slaughter. The number of guns captured is not yet known, but it must be large. The enemy were in great force, at least 20,000 men, the great part of which was Cavalry. Tung-chow has of course fallen. Our present camp is in advance of it, on the road to Pekin. A Mandarin has just come in with a flag of truce and a letter to Lord Elgin.

G. A.

Letter XXIII.[1]

Camp near Pekin: 28th September, 1860.

My dear General,—My time was too fully occupied to allow me to write by the last mail.

On the 9th of this month Lord Elgin and Sir Hope Grant left Tientsin, preceded by most of the Cavalry and a small force of Infantry. On the 13th the remainder of the Cavalry, a nine-pounder Battery, and a Brigade of Infantry of our Division followed.

Lord Elgin and Sir Grant Hope halted at a place named Ho-see-woo, forty-two miles in advance of Tientsin, until we arrived on the 16th. In the meanwhile Lord Elgin had been negotiating, and was, I believe, sanguine that the affair would be settled at Tung-chow. Under this impression we marched forward on the 17th with two and a half horse Batteries of field Artillery, about 600 Cavalry, and 1,700 Infantry. The French had twelve guns and about 1,000 Infantry. We reached a place named Matow, thirteen miles, that day. On the following day we continued our march towards Tung-chow. We were to encamp at a place that was to be arranged between the Imperial Commissioners and our Authorities a few miles short of it, and with a view to this Col. Walker, the Assistant Quartermaster-General of the Cavalry Brigade, had gone on the preceding day to Tung-chow with Mr. Parkes,[2] and was to meet our Force, and make over our camping ground. We had not marched four miles when we came on a Cavalry picket, and soon after perceived a large Tartar force in front of us, blocking up the road, and evidently determined we should not pass. A Mandarin presently appeared under a flag of truce, and used all his endeavours to stop us. He returned to his camp. A few minutes after this a heavy fire ran along the enemy's line, and an officer, with two or three Dragoons and Irregular Cavalry, was seen hastily galloping towards our camp.

This turned out to be Colonel Walker,[3] whom they tried to murder, and who escaped. Two or three of those with him were slightly wounded. After this there was no further doubt as to their intentions. I must, before continuing my narrative, mention that Mr. Parkes, on seeing the Tartars drawn up, had returned that morning to Tung-chow to ask the Commissioners what this array of Tartars meant. On the return of the Chinese Mandarin who had come to our camp, two or three officers[4] had gone with him for the purpose of taking a letter to Mr. Parkes. The 'Times' correspondent[5] was amongst those who had gone to Tung-chow in the first instance.

[1] To General Eyre.

[2] Our interpreter.

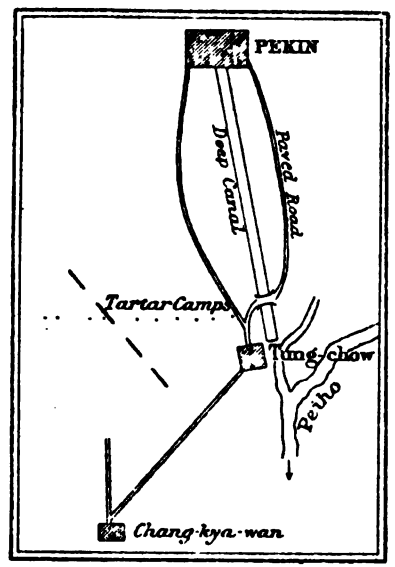
[3] Assistant-Quartermaster-General of the Cavalry.

[4] Mr. Loch, afterwards Sir H. Loch, G.C.B., Governor and Lord High Commissioner at the Cape, afterwards Lord Loch. Capt. Brabazon, Deputy Assistant-Quartermaster-General of Artillery, accompanied him.

[5] Mr. Bowlby.

All these officers (some six in number), although they entered the Tartar camp under flags of truce, are now prisoners in their hands.

We estimated the enemy's forces at from 15,000 to 20,000 men. They tried hard to turn our left flank with hordes of Cavalry, but could not succeed.



We carried their positions. A considerable number were slain, and 77 guns fell into our hands. We halted in the town of Chang-kya-wan for two days to get up stores from the rear. The Tartar army had been reinforced, and were encamped in great strength on the S. of Tung-chow, about four miles distant from us.

On the 23rd we moved forward, and parked our baggage in a convenient spot two miles outside Chang-kya-wan. We were not long in getting in sight of the enemy's camp. They pushed forward hordes of Cavalry to meet us. These men came down on us very boldly until our guns and Enfields had emptied some twenty saddles. The Cavalry (which was on the left) took advantage of the opportunity, and made a most successful charge, killing numbers.

Our line of advance was fortunately most successful, and could not have been better planned had we known every feature of the ground. (See sketch enclosed.) It was in an oblique line on the canal. The French were on the right; all our Cavalry on the left. We extended our line as much as possible, more than would have been expedient with an enemy more worthy of our steel.

The French had got up a reinforcement of about 1,000 more Infantry. As they pressed the enemy on the right, they most of them made off towards the left, and came on our columns in succession. The French punished them more severely than we did, as they drove them into the canal, where there was no means of crossing. We killed numbers also. The enemy could not have left less than 1,000 dead on the field; we captured several camps and forty-seven guns, and drove them back in the utmost confusion on Pekin.

We followed up to within five miles of the capital.

We have since been encamped on the canal, about two miles behind our furthest point of advance, waiting for our heavy guns, reinforcements of Infantry, and stores.

The Chinese still appear disinclined to treat on the terms we offer them. On two occasions we have pushed reconnaissances up to the gates of Pekin, and found no force between us and the capital. A Tartar force is encamped on the north of the city. We gain from different sources that the Tartars are in a great fright, and are deserting their General, Singolinsin. Some have already been executed for showing signs of cowardice. The prisoners, I regret to say, are still in Pekin, and reports are rife that some have been wounded. Great fears are felt on their behalf, for they are doubtless at the mercy of an infuriated soldiery.

By to-morrow or the following day we shall have been reinforced by 2,500 more Infantry, and four eight-inch guns and four eight-inch mortars. The Engineers have been busily employed in preparing scaling ladders, and the means of crossing wet ditches.

Sir Robert Napier has joined us.

The large and important town of Tung-chow, as a matter of course, fell into our hands, and from it we have been drawing supplies of beef and sheep. As to grain and forage for feeding horses, we are well off, for the country has supplied us in quantities. Successive convoys of boats are being pushed up rapidly from Tientsin. We have a hospital and depôt at Ho-see-woo, which is half-way from Tientsin to Pekin. A muster roll of the enemy was found here two days ago. The Tartar force at Chang-kya-wan and around Tung-chow is put down at the extraordinary number of 80,000 men. Our estimate of their number on the last day was 30,000 men. The number of their Cavalry was astounding. At Tung-chow they left fully 1,000 dead on the field.

In a day or two we shall advance on Pekin. If the Emperor flies and won't treat, I see nothing for it but to *leave our mark on Pekin*, and hold the mouth of the Peiho until they crave for peace.

Time is short. Hitherto we have been singularly favoured with fine warm campaigning weather; another month will bring us well into the autumn, and it behoves us to make up our minds quickly. At Pekin we shall be 120 miles from our ships. There is a good deal of slight sickness in camp. Our Punjabees, strange to say, are by far the healthiest troops we have.

I will keep this open until the mail leaves.

29th.—The Russian Ambassador, General Ignatieff,[1] is in our camp. He has lent us the best plan of Pekin I have yet seen—better and more detailed than our own. He gives us all the information he can about Pekin, which place he has visited. The American Ambassador or Consul returned to Shanghai when the rebels approached it, and has not made

[1] Afterwards Russian Ambassador at Constantinople.

his appearance here. Lord Elgin is in camp. His position is now one of great difficulty, and it will require no little diplomacy to wind up this war in accordance with the wishes of you all at home. Baron Gros [1] plays quite second fiddle, as does, I believe, the French Commander-in-Chief [2] to ours. This is satisfactory, as it is much easier to arrange all matters.

It is raining to-day, and I fear it will stop our movements. Our siege train is in.

30*th*.—Marvellous to relate, there is a good deal of funk in high places! Lord Elgin *is not* the person I allude to. Can you imagine anything so weak as the idea of abandoning Tung-chow on our advance on Pekin? Such I know to be the present intention, unless the strong remonstrances of my General have prevailed to avert it. This would be our position. From the sketch you will perceive that Tung-chow (a walled town with about 200,000 inhabitants) is on the direct line of our communications with Tientsin. Our convoys of grain, &c., came up the Peiho as far as Tung-chow. We should thus leave one of the most important towns in the North of China to be occupied at will by the Tartars while we besieged Pekin, and our communication with our rear cut off, as it would be the simplest operation in the world for the enemy to throw a large body into Tung-chow, either from the west or north. You will be still more surprised at the reason for this unaccountable plan. It is this:—It is believed that a considerable number of armed Tartars are secreted in the town, and it would be unadvisable to have meddled with them or bring on a collision by leaving troops there! If Tung-chow is occupied by 400 English, and a similar number of French troops, with a couple of guns, we overawe all opposition. We occupy the main gates, and woe should it be to them if they showed the least nonsense. We besides require a large amount of boat transport to take our military stores back again.

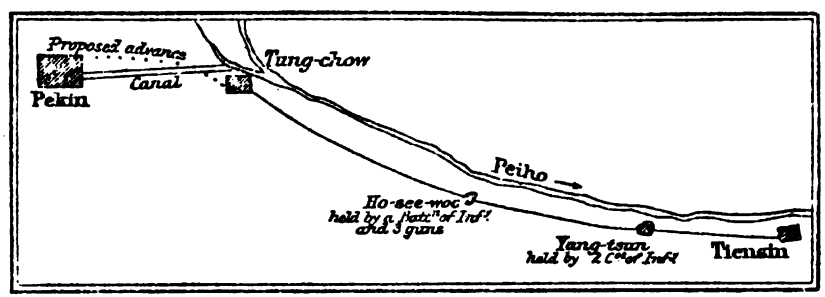
By leaving Tung-chow we must, of course, either send our boats to Ho-see-woo or leave them to their fate. Ho-see-woo is thirty miles in rear of Tung-chow.

I believe our position to be a splendid one. Everything favours us, but we must not play tricks like the one proposed. If I had to select two Major-Generals for the command of Divisions, it would be difficult to find two such first-rate men as at present hold them. Your Military Train requires great reform, and I believe everyone who has seen the working of that Corps in China is of the same opinion. Their position is an anomalous one—a military body under a civil department, the Commissariat I mean; for under the control of the latter is the Land Transport of the army. They don't understand, either, what I conceive to be one of the most important parts of their work, viz. the care of and looking after the animals under their immediate

[1] New French Ambassador.

[2] Lieut.-Gen. C. de Montauban, afterwards Count Palikao, in 1870 head of the Government in France till the battle of Sedan.

charge. The animals are in wretched condition, and every other one has a sore back. They are too close an approximation to dragoons, with their heavy saddles, carbines, and accoutrements. They should all be light men, stable boys and of that stamp, armed perhaps with a revolver and a hunting whip, men accustomed to live with and understand the treatment of quadrupeds. Men of the same knowledge should alone be their officers. They should not, I think, be a military body with military rank; they should be something more than dragoons riding alongside waggons with toes in and heels depressed. The Commissariat Department is wretchedly weak in officers. They should have two or three to every one they have at present, and they should have a much larger staff of active subordinates to ride about and ascertain the resources of the country they are moving over, and be able to lay their hands on all that is 'get-at-able.' Beyond 'issuers' they have no one. I am giving you my own ideas on these things. They may force a smile, and be considered impracticable or absurd, but such as they are they would conduce to our efficiency on service. If the Minister of War would pay half the attention to the Commissariat that he does to the Medical Department it would be good. We have heaps of medical people of no earthly use. Of what earthly use is a Sanitary Officer in camp? Everyone laughs at him! Men who have lived in camps for years surely know a great deal more of what may be healthy or unhealthy ground to encamp on—know that it is as necessary to preserve cleanliness in camp as it is to attend to the discipline of their men. In the Sanitary Officer's instructions, a Quartermaster-General has to consult him before laying out his camp! Do you suppose any do? No; it is well enough in theory, but impracticable in practice. The Purveyors' Department can't work in service. The Hospital purveyors should be a branch of the Commissariat, and not a separate department. I can fancy its working well enough in a camp at home.



9th October.—Pekin is at our mercy; they would not fight us again. We have plundered the Summer

Palace of Yuen-ming-yuen. The Emperor has gone to Tartary. We have not entered Pekin, but doubt not that we shall do so without resistance. In greatest haste. Love to Bessie and all.

Yours affectionately,

G. ALLGOOD.

LETTER XXIV.

Camp, five miles from Pekin: October 4th, 1860.

My dear Mother,—As I may have but short notice when the mail leaves I will commence at once. We at last move towards Pekin. It has been delayed day after day. To-morrow we move on Pekin. Our first duty is to beat the Tartar Army, and well, too; then to take Pekin in whatever way we may find easiest. We leave our heavy guns, all our camp equipage and baggage here parked in a defensible spot.

Although daily letters have come in from the authorities at Pekin, there is no peace yet. I have all along been of opinion that an advance alone, and the dispersion of the Tartar Army, would lead to anything. There is, I believe, no doubt about the Emperor being helpless, as Singolinsin has the army and is really master. The latter is reported to be ambitious, with an eye to the throne, and that it would please him to see the Emperor dethroned that he might seize it on our departure. Matters are evidently complicated, and no one can foresee how this war will end. End it must before the winter sets in, for the English people would not sanction the expense of maintaining this Army for an indefinite period. I make no doubt about our getting possession of Pekin. We have a few 10-inch guns and large mortars to use if we require them. The Chinese merchants have more than once sent in to say that if we would spare Pekin they would supply us with what we wanted. We have not recovered our prisoners, and I think that that in itself is a sure sign that there is no great anxiety for peace with those in *power*. We shall see in a day or so what will turn up.

I wish we had *either of our Major-Generals at the head of this army!*

The weather is delightful. It puts me in mind of the early part of December in India. A month hence, and we shall shiver in the mornings.

I have got two letters since I last wrote, the last one, dated 2nd August, from Elemore. I am glad you have seen Lord Clyde. If I can only get my *majority at once* I shall get another step for China.

Colonel Harness[1] was a great friend of mine. He is a good soul.

I am writing a long letter to the General by this mail. I wish dear old Macbean had been able to pay you a visit before leaving England. There is no chance of his coming to China, as none of the Bengal Commissariat are here.

How is Izzie? I owe Ella a letter, but in these

[1] Afterwards General Sir Henry D. Harness, K.C.B.

stirring times there is no time to write. Give them both, and Jim, my best love.

This must be added to as occasion offers.

October 9th.—All I have time to say—that we are within a few hundred yards of the walls of Pekin, without a fight.

The Imperial City is ours, when we choose to enter it. Mr. Parkes[1] and Loch[2] were given up. A melancholy mystery hangs over the others. Best love to all.

Your affectionate son,

G. ALLGOOD.

LETTER XXV.

Camp, Pekin: 21st October, 1860.

My dear Mother,—I think I told you in my last letter that I received yours from Elemore on your way home.

We shall retire from Pekin in a few days. The Emperor has not turned up, but is still at Giho[3] or some place in Manchuria. We are treating now with his half-brother—an individual named Kung.[4] The Treaty is to be ratified in the Palace in Pekin to-morrow or the next day. The poor fellows who were made prisoners by the Tartars have, all but one, been given up; but, alas! in their coffins. The fate of the missing one will probably be ever wrapped in obscurity.[5] We buried those that came in, with military honours, in the Russian cemetery.[6] As a mark of honour the Russian Ambassador, priests, &c., and all the French Staff attended the funeral.

One of the articles in the Treaty is that the Chinese pay down, two days hence, 10,000*l.* for the family of each murdered European.

We retire on Tientsin. The present intention is that the 31st, 67th, and 99th, with Probyn's Horse, winter at Tientsin, and all the rest return to Hong-Kong to winter. This plan, I think, may enable me to get away, as they will not wish to keep up a large staff. Our proper plan would have been to have wintered at Pekin. It was quite feasible had we acted at first with energy. Lord Elgin, I believe, wished it, as, politically speaking, it would have exerted an unbearable pressure on the Chinese. As Tientsin has been decided on as winter quarters, it would be a wise measure to send the bulk of our Force to Hong-Kong for the winter, as we should have to turn out half the inhabitants from their houses in Tientsin did the whole Force winter there. At Pekin we had any amount of splendid Quarters. Grain to any extent could have been collected in a fortnight. Our convoys of boats reach to within fourteen miles of Pekin from Tien-tsin in five days,

[1] Previously our Consul at Canton, our interpreter, afterwards Sir Harry Parkes, K.C.B., Minister Plenipotentiary in Japan.

[2] Afterwards Sir H. Loch, G.C.B., Governor and Lord High Commissioner at the Cape, since Lord Loch.

[3] More than 100 miles north of the Great Wall.

[4] Prince Kung.

[5] Captain Brabazon, R.A.

[6] See picture, by a Chinese artist, brought from Pekin by G. A.

and could have brought us up large supplies before the severe cold sets in. It is not warm just now:—something like the upper part of the Punjab in January. We shall march down to Tientsin easily in a week, and, if we embark, in two days more to the sea.

As retribution for the murder of our poor fellows we burnt the Emperor's palace at Yuen-ming-yuen to the ground. It will give you an idea of the extent of the conflagrations when I tell you that 3,500 men were employed for two days burning. Hundreds of buildings were reduced to ashes.

I have collected several pretty things—something, I think, for every one—from the Emperor's own rooms. I have one grand trophy—the *Emperor's own State seal.*[1]

How I shall talk to you about all these things when I return home!

I cannot write well, or I would describe the wonders of China to you in my letters. It must keep! There is no longer a 'Times' correspondent. He,[2] poor fellow, was amongst those given up dead.

Tell Bessie, with my love, that if I return to Hong-Kong I will attend to her wishes about the photograph of her dear boy's grave in the 'Happy Valley.'

The winter at Hong-Kong is pleasant weather.

[1] Bought at the auction after the taking of the Emperor's palace.
[2] Mr. Bowlby.

This is an immense city, at least twenty-three miles round the walls. The population must certainly be two millions at least.

I long to hear that all the clauses of the Amalgamation (India) business have passed into law. Would that I could get my promotion before the China honours are given!

Our Divisional Headquarters are in a Tibetan temple, with scores of gods of all sizes and shapes, and all the paraphernalia of Buddhist worship. Some of the gods have been displaced from their pedestals to give room for more useful furniture. They are curious places, but when you have seen one you have seen all, and they cease to interest.

I expect a letter from The Hermitage in a day or two. My hands are too cold to write much, so you must excuse a longer letter. Best of loves to Annie and all.

Your affectionate son,

G. ALLGOOD.

25th October, Pekin.—The mail does not leave until to-day, and I have time to add another line. We signed the Treaty of Peace yesterday in the heart of Pekin. We took 1,000 men in with us, and to guard against treachery (rumours of which were rife) we had a Division of Infantry posted at all the commanding places on our route. The French sign to-day.

We commence our return march on the 1st of

next month. We *should* be at Hong-Kong by the end of November.

I intend to return *vid* Calcutta, staying there a week or so in order to settle public and private business. Then home.

There is a probability of Sir John Michel remaining in China, but I believe that all Indian Staff officers will get away to India. I am sure that Sir John will do all he can to let me go. I like him as well as ever, and his good, gentlemanlike A.D.C.

Green, the D.A.A.G., has gone away to England sick, and another man reigns in his stead. I shall take the first opportunity of exploring Pekin. It is an immense place, with wide streets, but, as far as I have seen, not a fine town. The Mantchu Tartar Mandarins who were present at the signing of the Treaty were most of them intelligent, gentlemanlike-looking men.

The Emperor's brother, who signed the Treaty, is a young, dissipated-looking person, without marked character. He appeared frightened and heart-broken.

The news of the capture of Pekin will resound through all Asia, and produce in India an excellent effect. I am very glad that I have been one of the first European army that has dictated terms to the proudest monarch of the universe.

I must close this now.

G. A.

Letter XXVI.

Pekin, November 5, 1860.

My dear Mother,—'How can write—too muchee coulo—no can do'—as a Chinaman would say in his Canton English.

We leave Pekin on the 8th, and march down. A certain portion of the force winters at Tientsin. I *go back* to India for a fortnight, and then home. I should be with you (D.V.) by the end of, or perhaps even by the middle of March. Don't write to me again. It is a pity I could not have told you this before. Your letters will not, I fear, reach me. Send me a line addressed Poste Restante, Alexandria, and I will call for it. It should be there about the 1st March, not later. I will keep you acquainted with my movements. I have no chance now of seeing Japan, which I regret.

We wander about Pekin, showing our barbarian faces in every street, and buying all sorts of things, as is the custom with Britons in like cases. The Emperor has approved of the Treaty. The French have gone back to Tientsin. Lord Elgin lives in Pekin. The Russian Ambassador gave a grand dinner the other night . . .!

I am delighted at the idea of getting home so soon after so much knocking about.

The weather is cold and frosty, but delightful except at nights.

I am so glad you approved my photograph.
Sir John Michel is to winter at Shanghai.

Ho-see-woo: November 11.

To-day is our third march from Pekin on our way downwards. We remain here a day or two, as the force to remain at Tientsin is formed here, and allows Tientsin to be emptied of troops before it moves.

Best love to all.

Your affectionate son,
G. Allgood.

Letter XXVII.

P. & O. Steamer 'Aden,' off Shanghai, December 7, 1860.

My dear Mother,—I will post this letter at Hong-Kong in three or four days' time. I am now a passenger by the mail steamer, but will have to change my steamer at Hong-Kong and get into one going to Calcutta, where I hope to arrive about the end of the month. A fortnight in Calcutta, and home. My last letter was from Pekin, or on my way down to Tientsin. The rear-guard reached Tientsin (I think) on 21st. That very night a snow-storm came on, and it lasted for two days and nights. So you see we did not finish the campaign one day too soon! The cold was great. On the 24th we left Tientsin, and the Admiral very kindly put his steamer at Sir John Michel's disposal to take him down to Taku. We reached the mouth of the river the same afternoon, and the next morning embarked on H.M. screw steamer 'Cruiser,' commanded by an exceedingly nice fellow named Bythesea,[1] who took us down to Shanghai in four days. It snowed half the way, and one morning we had three or four inches of snow on her deck. I enjoyed my stay at Shanghai. Being still with Sir John Michel, we dined out almost every evening with the wealthy merchants. Both Hong-Kong and Shanghai would astonish you, and you could hardly conceive that in twelve or fourteen years such towns could have sprung up. Mr. Bruce very kindly allowed Sir John to live in his house, as he was himself absent at Tientsin.

Last night I embarked, and was very sorry to say good-bye to kind old Sir John and his Aide-de-Camp Elkington,[2] who has been my chum and companion for so long. Sir John said all sorts of kind things, and said that nothing would give him greater pleasure than to take me as his Staff officer either in Europe or India, and that if ever he was in command of a Force he would give me employment if he was able to manage it. I like him very much, and think him an excellent officer: a cool head, determined spirit, and the activity of a boy. Both he and Elkington will be in England about May.

I was glad to come down *vid* Shanghai and see the place instead of going direct to Hong-Kong. I

[1] Afterwards Admiral Bythesea, C.B., C.I.E., &c.
[2] Afterwards Lieut.-General Elkington, C.B., &c.

shipped three boxes there for England, on the 'Cam Bellow,' consigned to Messrs. Fletcher, Alexander & Co. The freight *has to be paid.* The contents are principally enamels, with a few bits of porcelain and jade-stone. You will admire the former very much, and they will look beautiful in The Hermitage drawing-room, and will be the envy, I think, of every one who sees them. I shall come in for the end of the hunting season. If Hunter or Jim should know of any really good cross-country horse up to a light weight, I wish they would buy such for me, if they have the opportunity. I would go up to . . . As I have been so long in harness, I think I may now have a little enjoyment hunting. I have no reason to doubt my leave being granted; the only doubt is whether I can get it in a fortnight, as the Commander-in-Chief[1] is up country. I cannot fancy I am coming home. But has it not been long deferred? My present intention is to apply for the balance of leave due to me on the new rules, keeping my appointment, and when at home to apply for an extension.

I think on the whole it is better to come home with my appointment, as there is no knowing what this amalgamation may bring forth. In the interim, if you can have a letter waiting for me at Alexandria, saying where you will be when I arrive at home, it will prevent making the mistake I was about to make last time. The middle of January should see me off from India. I shall run down to see Bessie and the General at Chatham most probably the day after I arrive in town and before I go north. If Hunter or Jim are in London, and will leave a note at the E. India U.S. Club, I shall get it the same day I reach London. I have not seen Arthur Harrison since before we advanced on Pekin. His Battery was unfortunately left behind. I should have known him anywhere; not in the least altered since we were at Kennedy's together. I do hope Ann is better! Burrell is on his way home in the 'Alfred.' She carries the Head-Quarters of the 2nd Queen's, and should be home in April.

Probyn has gone back to India. Peter Lumsden I hope to meet at Hong-Kong and go back with him to Calcutta.

Hong-Kong, 11th.

Just got here. A good passage. With love to all.

Your affectionate son,

G. Allgood.

[1] General Lord Clyde, afterwards Field-Marshal Lord Clyde, G.C.B., &c.

Letter XXVIII.

Military Club, Calcutta, January 8, 1861.

Dear Mother,—Many, very many happy returns of the year to you all.

I spent New Year's day here, having got away from Hong-Kong a week or ten days earlier than

I expected. We made a splendid run to Calcutta, having been only 11 days and 6 hours under steam.

My application for leave will probably have reached the Commander-in-Chief to-day, and I fully expect to get off by the mail of the 23rd instant. But I am confident that all will be right.

I sent home two more boxes from Whampoa (Canton port); one contains a large china bowl. Please tell Alexanders that bill of lading will be sent by one of Messrs. Jardine's house.

Peter Lumsden, poor fellow, goes up to Peshawar. I wish he was coming home with me, for I want you so much to know him. You must not suppose that I am getting any of your letters now. They all go to North China, then hark back again; they will reach me in the summer.

I have applied for six months' leave, retaining my appointment. If they won't allow me to do this I shall, of course, throw it up and be done with it. I am determined that nothing shall do me out of my leave home. I am busy getting up a Report on the campaign for the Government, so no more. May this be the last from India! Love to all.

Your affectionate son,

G. ALLGOOD.

JOURNAL OR REPORT

ON

EXPEDITIONARY FORCE TO CHINA, 1860

THE greater portion of the China Expeditionary Force from Bengal left Calcutta during the latter end of February and the month of March.

Sailing vessels.

The sailing vessels reached Singapore, on an average, in 28 days, and Hong-Kong in 57.

The cavalry ships, 13 in number, were towed to Hong-Kong. The 10 steamers which towed them carried Infantry, and made Hong-Kong in about 30 days.

The majority of the sailing vessels had a light breeze as far as the Straits of Malacca. Thence to Hong-Kong the wind was very variable and capricious, and frequently blew hard. Some of the vessels were towed into Singapore, and for some miles out of that place, by H.M's. war steamers.

Not less than two full months should be given in calculating the passage of sailing vessels from Calcutta to Hong-Kong at this season of the year.

Health of the troops.

The troops reached Hong-Kong in good health; a fact which may be attributed in a great measure to the liberal space[1] allowed them on board ship, and to the supply of fresh vegetables which was put on board each ship at the instigation of Sir R. Napier.

[1] 15 ft. per European soldier, 9 ft. per native.

Cholera.

They suffered more or less from cholera in the Hoogly, but the epidemic left them when fairly at sea. The heat in the Straits of Malacca and at Singapore was a good deal felt, especially by the horses.

Casualties amongst horses.

The casualties amongst the horses averaged 3 per cent. up to Hong-Kong.

At Hong-Kong the troops were landed and placed in camp; the greater portion of them at Kowloon, on the mainland opposite Hong-Kong. The remainder were landed at Deep Water Bay, and at Stanley at the back of the island.

The health of the troops remained good during their stay in camp. The climate was cool and pleasant.

Condition of horses

Some of the horses[2] were landed with mange; others had irritation of the skin, and appeared in low condition. They recovered their appearance rapidly. The fodder supplied to them consisted of paddy, straw, and the straw of the ground-nut, both of which are extensively used at Hong-Kong in feeding horses.

The horses of the Dragoon Guards, and most of

[2] See Major Probyn's Report in Appendix.

those belonging to Fane's Horse had but a short rest at Hong-Kong.

They reached Talien Bay in much better condition than could have been anticipated, and were fit for work in a day or two. The green food which could be procured there in abundance very soon brought them into good condition. The casualties between Hong-Kong and Talien Bay were trifling, as the weather was cool. When finally re-embarked for service, their condition was most satisfactory.

Ration for native troops and followers.

The ration for native troops[1] and followers authorised in General Orders dated Hong-Kong, 3rd May, is here given. It was generally approved of:—

	lbs.	ozs.
Rice or Flour	2	
Dhall		4
Ghee		2
Salt		⅛
Firewood	2	
Turmeric		⅛
Pepper		½
Sugar		8
Good mutton, twice a week. .	½	

On board ship they drew in addition:—

Onions	¼
Garlic	¼
Tamarinds	2
Chillies	¼

'Tobacco 1½ oz. may be substituted for sugar by those who prefer it. As a general rule, rice in lieu of flour on alternate days to Bombay and Madras troops, and twice a week to Punjabees. Rum to be issued to Madras Sappers, and rum, opium, and tea to the Punjab troops on payment. 2 drams of rum to be the maximum daily.'

From experience the only alterations which the writer would make in the above ration would be to give 1½ lb. of rice or flour instead of 2 lbs., and to increase the mutton to 1 lb. twice a week, and to give rum and tobacco gratis. Meat was not uncommonly given in lieu of ghee when the latter was not forthcoming. The privilege of purchasing rum was generally taken advantage of by the Sikhs, who were latterly permitted to buy it oftener.

Hong-Kong.

The means of fitting out an expedition at Hong-Kong, in regard to shipping, commissariat, &c., are considerable. Labour is very plentiful, and artisans of almost every description can be procured. Within the last few years the resources of the place have greatly increased.

At Whampoa our large boats for embarking and disembarking troops and horses were built.

Kowloon.

No localities exist on the island of Hong-Kong for embarking troops in large numbers. Kowloon was leased from the Chinese Government for that purpose, and has been ceded to the British Government in the convention recently signed at Pekin. The ground is undulating and has good natural drainage, nor is it shut out from the wind as the town of Hong-Kong is. Water is sufficiently plenti-

[1] See notes regarding native troops in Appendix.

ful if looked after. 8,000 men and 1,000 horses may find encamping ground there.

French expedition.

The French expedition had its rendezvous at Shanghai. The ponies for their Artillery and for the few Cavalry they had brought with them from France were bought at that place and at Manilla.

Land Transport.

The British Land Transport[1] consisted of the Chinese Coolie Corps (which eventually numbered nearly 3000 men); of ponies from Manilla, Shanghai, and Japan; of bullocks from Madras; and last, but by far the most efficient, of some 600 trained mules from Bombay, with their drivers. Some excellent waggons and Maltese carts may be added, a portion of which were landed at Tientsin, and were used by the Army on its march to Pekin.

The Coolie Corps was a decided success. It had been organised during the expedition to Canton, and had been recently strengthened. It was commanded by Major Temple, of the Madras Army, and under him were officers and men of different Regiments. It had a demi-military organisation.

The ponies bought in Manilla were undersized, weedy, and unfit for baggage purposes. Those from Shanghai, Shantung ponies, were sturdy and excellent. The ponies brought from Japan were inferior in strength and build to the Shantung ponies, but fiery and of good blood.

[1] See notes on Land Transport in Appendix.

The Bombay mules reached Talien Bay, after a voyage of about three months, in excellent order. There were few or no casualties on the voyage, as they had been shipped with care and properly attended to.

The pack-saddles, or pads, sent with them should be used on all expeditions, as they never break and seldom give sore backs. We tried pack-saddles from Manilla and Japan, and made up others at Hong-Kong on approved patterns. None, however, were good except the Indian pad.

No care appears to have been bestowed in shipping or looking after the ponies bought from other places. In some instances 50 per cent. were lost on short voyages; and in most instances the animals landed were in such a wretched state that many had to be shot. None were fit for work. In some ships, and after landing, glanders made sad havoc. The miserable state of our ponies when subsequently landed at Peitang was witnessed by everyone. The prices paid for them were exceedingly high. It would have been cheaper if the whole Land Transport had been shipped from India.

The writer strongly recommends that whenever land transport ponies or mules leave India, one man per every two ponies be sent with them. Experience in China (where forage is plentiful) has convinced the writer that it should be so. Bombay furnishes the best men for the purpose. Mules stand the sea voyage well; but whether mules or ponies, they

should be shipped in separate stalls, and well attended.[1]

Re-embarkation for the North.

On the 15th of May the troops commenced to re-embark for the North. The first division of the fleet (some twenty ships) sailed on the 19th. The naval authorities anticipated a fair wind and a rapid passage. They were out of their reckoning. We had rough weather and foul winds, and instead of making Talien Bay in ten or twelve days, the quickest passage was twenty. The average was thirty. The south-west monsoon above Hong-Kong is a myth. The 2nd Division was detained at Hong-Kong for several days owing to foul winds.

Climate.

Up to the end of July the climate of Talien [2] was cool and agreeable. During June east winds prevailed, and the days were frequently cold and foggy. Rapid changes of temperature took place. An east wind blew, and we required our warmest clothing; twenty-four hours afterwards it blew from the south or south-west, and our coolest clothing sufficed.

Talien Bay.

Talien Bay is situated at the most southern promontory of Leatung, and at the northern entrance to the Gulf of Pecheli. The bay is very extensive, open only to one point of the compass in a south-east direction; it consequently affords good and safe anchorage in nearly all weather. The English fleet of above 200 sail occupied but a small portion of it. The fleet watered at Odin Bay, Bustard Creek, and Victoria Bay. After considerable labour the wells at the first-named place afforded a daily supply of nearly 200 tons of water. Bustard Creek was also made into a good watering-place. Victoria Bay did not give more than sufficient to supply the troops after they had been landed. The fleet could not have filled up with water if the troops and horses had not been landed.

The Cavalry and Artillery were in camp at Odin Bay, the 1st Division on the Victoria Bay side, and the 2nd Division at Hand Bay. The Land Transport ponies generally at Bustard Creek.

We found sufficient water without indenting on the reservoirs used by the ships. On the west of the bay it was found close to the surface in almost every ravine.

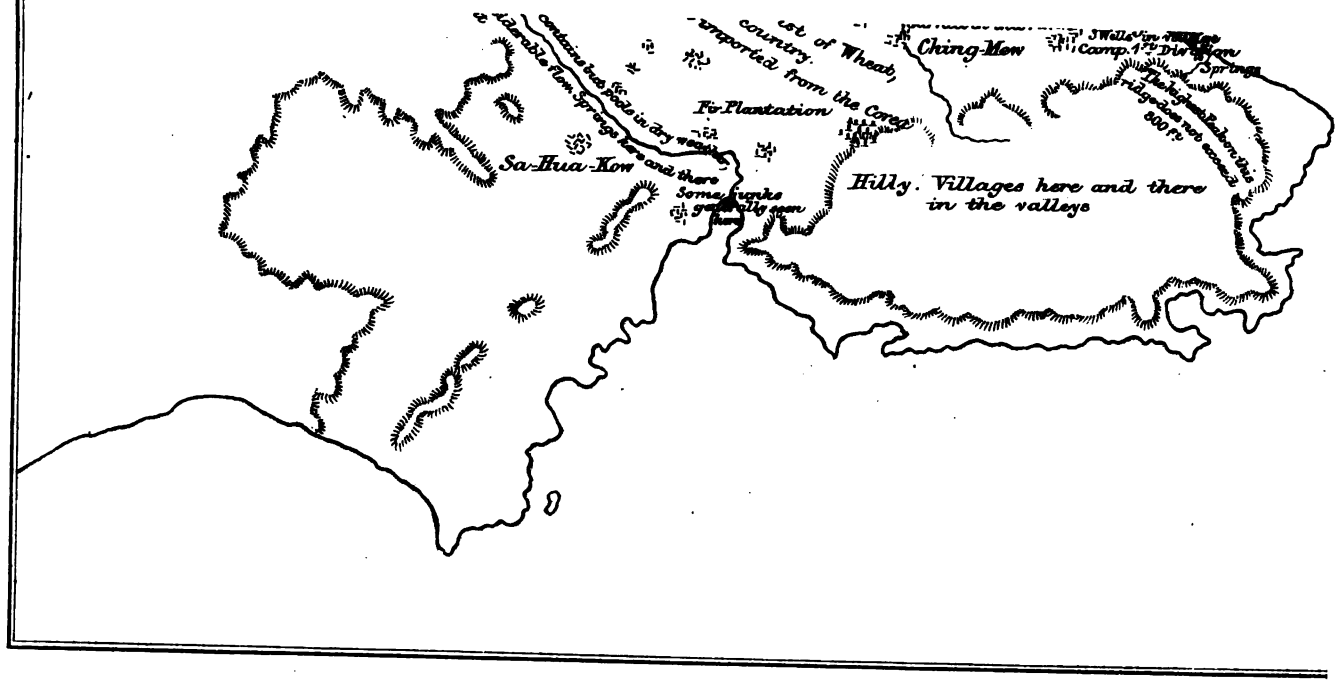
Green forage is abundant in July and August. Wheat ripens about the middle of the former month. At the commencement of the latter, Indian corn breaks into ear. Millet, and beans of different kinds, abound, and probably ripen at the latter end of September or beginning of October.

The coast rises well above the sea; in places it is abrupt and rocky. Ranges of hills rising to a maximum height of perhaps 1,000 feet (with the exception of Sampson's Peak, which exceeds that elevation), divide and merge into undulating plains covered with rich crops. Cattle were frequently seen in large herds on the hillsides a few miles inland. Sheep appeared scarce. Poultry and vegetables

[1] The drivers employed in the North of China consisted of Indians, Manilla men, Chinese and others. The Military Train, under whose orders they were, were unable to talk to them.

[2] See sketch.

HEAD-QUARTERS 1st DIVISION, TALIEN BAY.



Longmans & Co London & New York

were latterly brought into camp in considerable quantities. The mules and ponies are fine, and the donkeys numerous.

Fuel is scarce. In a few places small fir plantations are seen on the hillsides.

Kiu-Chowa, a walled town on the Gulf of Pecheli, is but three or four miles distant from the top of Hand Bay, and is the residence of the local Mandarin. By occupying it simultaneously with Talien Bay, and throwing a few troops on shore, we should cut off the end of the promontory, and be in a position to enforce the sale of whatever mules, cattle, &c. we might be in want of. The influence of the Mandarin on our first arrival prevented our being supplied with anything.

Talien is well fitted as a place of rendezvous for an expedition about to operate in the north of China. It is within thirty hours' steaming of the mouth of the Peiho, and affords, in the summer-time, plenty of green food to set up horses and cattle.

Hospital ships.

Our hospital ships were spacious and comfortable; there were five for the Europeans and one for the natives, and were each calculated on an average to hold 150 patients.

Symptoms of scurvy.

Symptoms of scurvy appeared amongst the 19th Punjab Infantry and amongst the Chinese coolies. An improved ration was given to the coolies, and their health was restored.

Lord Elgin arrives.

Lord Elgin and suite arrived in the 'Feroze' on the 9th of July.

French second rendezvous.

The French second rendezvous was at Cheefoo, in the province of Shantung, about sixteen hours' steaming from Talien Bay. Their anchorage was less sheltered than ours, but as a set-off to this they had the advantage of a good market.[1]

Commissariat junks.

Several junks had been captured by us at the entrance to the Gulf of Pecheli for our Commissariat purposes. They were emptied of their contents and re-filled with supplies of all kinds in readiness to be towed up the Peitang-ho and Peiho when the troops had landed.

Re-embarkation for the Peiho.

Owing to unforeseen delays, it was not until the 26th of July that we sailed from Talien Bay. The sailing vessels were towed out of harbour, and left to find their way as well as they could. A gentle breeze favoured us, and enabled the vessels to sail in their allotted places. On the morning of the 28th we joined the French fleet twenty miles off the Peiho, and cast anchor. On the 30th the sailing vessels were towed to within six miles of the mouth of the Peitang-ho.

Appearance of the coast.

The outline of the coast as seen from our ships was low and indistinct. The only objects we could clearly make out were the lofty cavaliers and bastions of the Taku forts.

A fresh breeze and chopping sea prevented our landing on the 31st.

[1] A depôt was formed at Talien Whan, and two Regiments with some guns, left there. One of these Regiments was soon after withdrawn.

Landing of the force at Peitang.

On 1st August, the 2nd Queen's, 60th Rifles, and 15th Punjab Infantry, under Sir J. Michel, with a similar Force of French, were landed by the Gunboats on the south bank[1] of the Peitang-ho, about 2,000 yards below the Forts. The troops had to wade through mud ankle-deep for 300 or 400 yards. The Gunboats crossed the Bar an hour before high tide, but it was not until half tide that our troops left their boats—about 4.30 P.M.

Reserve ammunition carried by coolies accompanied Regiments. The sketch appended to this Report shows the place of landing. It was effected without opposition.

Our object in landing at this place was to attack Peitang from the rear, thus turning its defences. The dotted line shows our advance. About sundown we struck the raised causeway leading from Peitang on the south side to Sinho. The French advance, which had been pushed up to the gate of Peitang, was withdrawn to our left. The British bivouacked on the narrow causeway, and a picket held the town gate. The high tide overflowed the ground on both sides of the causeway. On its receding the stench was well-nigh intolerable. The troops suffered from thirst. About midnight Major Temple returned to the Gunboats and brought up a supply of water in breakers.

It was ascertained, beyond a doubt, during the evening that the town of Peitang had been abandoned by the enemy.

[1] See sketch.

A small body of Tartar horsemen, ignorant of our position, approached to within a few yards of the causeway during the night. Our men, jumping up hurriedly from their sleep, fired wildly at them, when they scampered off as fast as they could.

On the morning of the 2nd the Allies took possession of the town and Forts. The former was told off between them. Our Gunboats were soon engaged in landing stores.

Peitang.

The town of Peitang is built on the right bank of the Peitang-ho, some 2,500 yards above its mouth. It is strong from the sea approach. Two Forts, one on each bank of the river, cover the town and defend the entrance of the river. The principal Fort is on the right bank. It is closed in rear by a low slight wall and narrow ditch. It would have become untenable on our Gunboats getting to its rear. The Forts, compared with those at Taku, were badly built. No boom or stakes closed the river.

The town is only approachable from the land side by the causeway alluded to above. An outer bank and ditch encircle it. Both inside and outside the bank the tide overflows the country. We afterwards closed two small creeks on the upper side of the town and kept the tide out. The entire country outside Peitang is more or less overflowed for two miles. The only dry spots are covered with conical tumuli resembling bell tents in shape; these are burial-grounds. The whole plain is covered with them. A

FORT IN PEITANG.

green creeping weed alone appears to thrive on this slimy waste. The causeway is raised about two feet above the high-water mark, and is about twelve feet in breadth.

Peitang is the key to the Taku Forts, and should have been strengthened and held by the Tartars. The position is naturally one of great strength.

In a letter (taken at Sinho) from Singolinsin to Pekin, no great importance was attached to our capturing Peitang. He argues: 'Should the Barbarians take Peitang they cannot occupy it from want of water; besides,' he says, 'it is most difficult to debouch from, and my Cavalry will surround and destroy them if they attempt it.'

Peitang has a population of probably 25,000. Its principal streets are wide enough for guns, but desperately deep in mud and filth in rainy weather. At first sight the town appears poor, but on further examination many excellent houses are found, evidently belonging to wealthy merchants. The extensive marine-store shops and pawnbrokers argue a wealthy mercantile town. We found large quantities of grain and fodder in it. The river at the town is about 300 yards wide. Our Gunboats and Despatch-boats lay within twenty yards of the bank at high tide. We found but two wharfs of the rudest description, and it became the first duty of the Engineers and Navy to construct others. We had brought from Hong-Kong with the expedition several yards of wooden wharfing ready made for use.

Our chief difficulty lay in supplying drinking water to the troops. The supply found in the huge earthen jars which every house in the town possessed was wantonly wasted, and only lasted two days. A condensing ship at work in the river landed forty tons daily. As our numbers increased on shore, water was eventually brought down daily in two large water-boats from six or eight miles up the river, where it was found perfectly fresh. Our animals were constrained to drink the river water at low tide, but did not relish it.

Reconnaissance.

On the morning of the 3rd, 1,000 French and 900 English, under General Collinot,[1] made a reconnaissance in the direction of Sinho. They ascertained that the causeway ended three miles on ahead,[2] and that some works defended the approach to Sinho. Some ten or twelve men of the Allies were wounded without our having gained much information.

By the 8th the whole of our troops and stores had been landed. The townspeople had gradually cleared out of the town as we occupied it. Eventually none remained. The Allies, numbering fully 13,000, soldiers, 5,000 followers, and 4,000 animals, were packed to overcrowding in this wretched dirty town. Here, as elsewhere in China, the furniture, rafters, doors, windows, &c. of houses afforded an

[1] Died of smallpox, at Tientsin, in November.

[2] At the end of it the ground rises and affords sufficient room for a strong brigade to deploy in line, and many pools of fresh water were seen.

ample supply of fuel. It rained heavily on the morning of the 5th; on the 9th from midday to dark it poured, turning the town and country into a swamp, and rendering a forward movement on the morrow impossible. On the 10th it rained more or less throughout the day. On the 11th it cleared up and the ground dried rapidly, but there were considerable doubts as to our being able to move on the morrow.

Advance from Peitang, and capture of Sinho.

At 5 o'clock A.M. on the 12th of August the army commenced to debouch from the gate of the town. It required no little arrangement to extricate so large a force by one causeway, jammed up as it was so closely. The 2nd Division led the way, followed by all the cavalry. This column, under the command of Sir R. Napier, left the causeway about 1,000 yards beyond the gate, and took ground to the right for the purpose of operating on the enemy's flank. The guns, after leaving the causeway, stuck frequently in the deep mud, and got on with much difficulty.[1] The ground soon became drier and more favourable. The 1st Division, under Sir J. Michel, with the entire Force of the French, with their respective Commanders-in-Chief, moved along the causeway direct on Sinho. By 10 A.M. the last of the allied army had cleared Peitang.

The Tartars held Sinho and had a large camp, principally of Cavalry, 1,000 yards on the W. of Sinho. An advanced detachment held the Works which command the direct road on Sinho.

The Mongol Cavalry, on perceiving the advance of Sir R. Napier's column, advanced boldly, with standards flying and with loud shouts, to oppose his progress. For a short time they disregarded the fire of his guns and pushed resolutely forward towards them until repulsed by a charge of Fane's Horse. In twenty minutes they were completely routed. The heavy nature of the country, and the numerous dykes and swamps, did not allow him to give hot pursuit. Major Probyn, however, followed them for some distance to the Westward, and captured 200 ponies and a large flock of sheep. The greater number of the enemy fled, panic-stricken, through Sinho towards Tangku. Their losses amounted to sixty or eighty killed.

The 1st Division and French, who had advanced simultaneously along the causeway, were enabled to deploy 36 Field guns against the first entrenched Work. At the termination of the causeway the country became higher and drier, and allowed the guns to advance by alternate Batteries to within 300 yards. The Work was abandoned after the enemy had lost some men and horses. Sinho was covered by an entrenchment, but was not defended. After two hours' halt the whole of the French troops, supported by the 60th Rifles and 15th Punjab Infantry, advanced along the causeway towards the entrenched village of Tangku. On coming within range the

[1] The waggons were left behind embedded deep in the mud, and were not brought to the front for some days.

TANG

ENT.

enemy opened fire along his entire works. A reconnaissance having been effected, the force retired.

Sinho.

The village of Sinho has a population of about 6,000. It is situated within one mile of the Peiho, from which a creek, navigable at high tide for junks of a considerable size, runs. In this creek some 30 junks were secured, which were afterwards used to form part of the bridge of boats. The country round Sinho, especially on the W., is more favourable for military operations than that around Peitang. Extensive gardens supplied our troops with vegetables from the 12th to 30th of August. Large stacks of hay, sufficient for 3,000 animals for fifteen days, fell into our hands. Green fodder was abundant, and good grass was to be had in large quantities at the distance of 1 mile on the W. of the village. The Peiho water was quite drinkable, and much better than was found in the creeks, where it stagnated. Fuel was obtained in plenty from the houses in the village.

The army bivouacked in and around Sinho on the night of the 12th.

Working party throw up a trench.

On the afternoon of the 13th the 1st Division took up ground on the S. of Sinho, with its right resting on the Peiho. At night a working party of 700 men, with a covering party of 500, threw up cover within 500 yards of the Tangku entrenchment. Another party of 100 was placed at a certain point on the Peiho to cover the attack and retirement of a party of English and French sailors who were to cut out some armed junks which would have enfiladed our advance on Tangku on the following day. The attack, however, did not take place.

Attack and capture of Tangku.

On the morning of the 14th the 1st Division, under Sir J. Michel, with its right resting on the Peiho, and a similar force of French, with its left resting on the Tangku causeway, advanced to attack Tangku. Previous to opening fire on the entrenchment, a party of sailors burnt the armed junks alluded to above. The English and French field Artillery was deployed into line in front of the Infantry, bringing 36 guns[1] and 2 rocket Batteries to bear simultaneously on the entrenchment. The trench dug on the previous night was occupied by our Riflemen. When the guns had advanced to within 300 yards, an entrance was effected at the bastion which abuts on the river by some Riflemen who had crept up to it under cover of long reeds which fringed the river. The enemy fought their guns bravely, as was testified by the dead bodies lying around them. Near the gun in the river bastion, 17 dead bodies showed the destructive effect of the two Armstrong guns which had been playing on it. The extensive entrenchment around the village of Tangku was ours without further fighting. The loss of the Allies was slight. The village of Tangku has a population of 3,000 or 3,500. Thirty good junks were secured, and were

[1] 12 of these were 'Armstrong' guns and did great execution.

subsequently floated up the river to form the English portion of the bridge of boats.

Enemy's bridge of boats.

The enemy had a bridge of boats near the Tan-Yamun, but broke it on our capture of Tangku.

British bring up guns, ammunition, and supplies from the rear.

Previous to attacking the Taku Forts it was necessary to bring up the heavy guns, ammunition, and supplies from the rear. The transport coolies and animals were worked day and night. Numbers of the latter had died on our first march from Sinho; every hour they fell exhausted on the road, never to rise again. In a week's time not more than half were able to move a mile; 3/4ths had sore backs.

An unusually high tide floods camp.

On the 16th August an unusually high tide, caused by a strong wind from the sea, caused the Peiho to overflow its banks, and to flood the low ground on which our camp stood.

Some French troops cross the Peiho.

On the 18th some French troops crossed the Peiho opposite Sinho, and drove the enemy out of some gardens and villages, throwing their outposts on to an open plain from whence they could see the great road to Tientsin. The opposite bank of the river having been thus secured, material for a bridge was collected. The Peiho averages about 250 yards in breadth from its mouth up to Sinho; the tide runs with great velocity when a wind from the east blows.

The Peiho.

Extensive gardens.

The gardens occupied by the French on the right bank of the river deserve mention. They are very extensive, covering perhaps an area of 300 or 400 acres. Grapes, peaches, apples, pears, apricots, and other kinds of fruit, and vegetables of almost every description, grow in the richest profusion. The four first-named fruits were on the point of ripening, and were greedily devoured by the troops.

Batteries thrown up against the Northern Forts.

On the night of the 20th August Batteries were thrown up for our heavy guns to cannonade the nearest Northern Fort. At daybreak on the following morning, after a very heavy cannonade from land and sea, the near Fort was carried by escalade by the Allies. The British loss amounted to about 200 killed and wounded, and the French to perhaps the same number. The Tartars stood well and lost very heavily. The Northern Fort at the mouth of the river capitulated, the garrison surrendering themselves as prisoners of war. A magazine in each fort was blown up during the cannonade. At 2 P.M. of the same day a violent thunderstorm, accompanied by very heavy rain, laid the entire country under water. It ceased at 6 P.M., but rained again lightly during the night. The entire country was under water for some hours. All the Southern Forts were abandoned the same night.

Their capture.

Violent thunderstorm.

Southern Forts abandoned.

A Division of Infantry and Cavalry should have been thrown across the Peiho previous to our attack on the Northern Forts.

It was hoped that a Division of Infantry and the Cavalry which were lying idle at Sinho would have been thrown across the Peiho and placed on the Tientsin road previous to the attack of the Forts. Had such been done the whole garrison of the Taku Forts must have become prisoners of war.

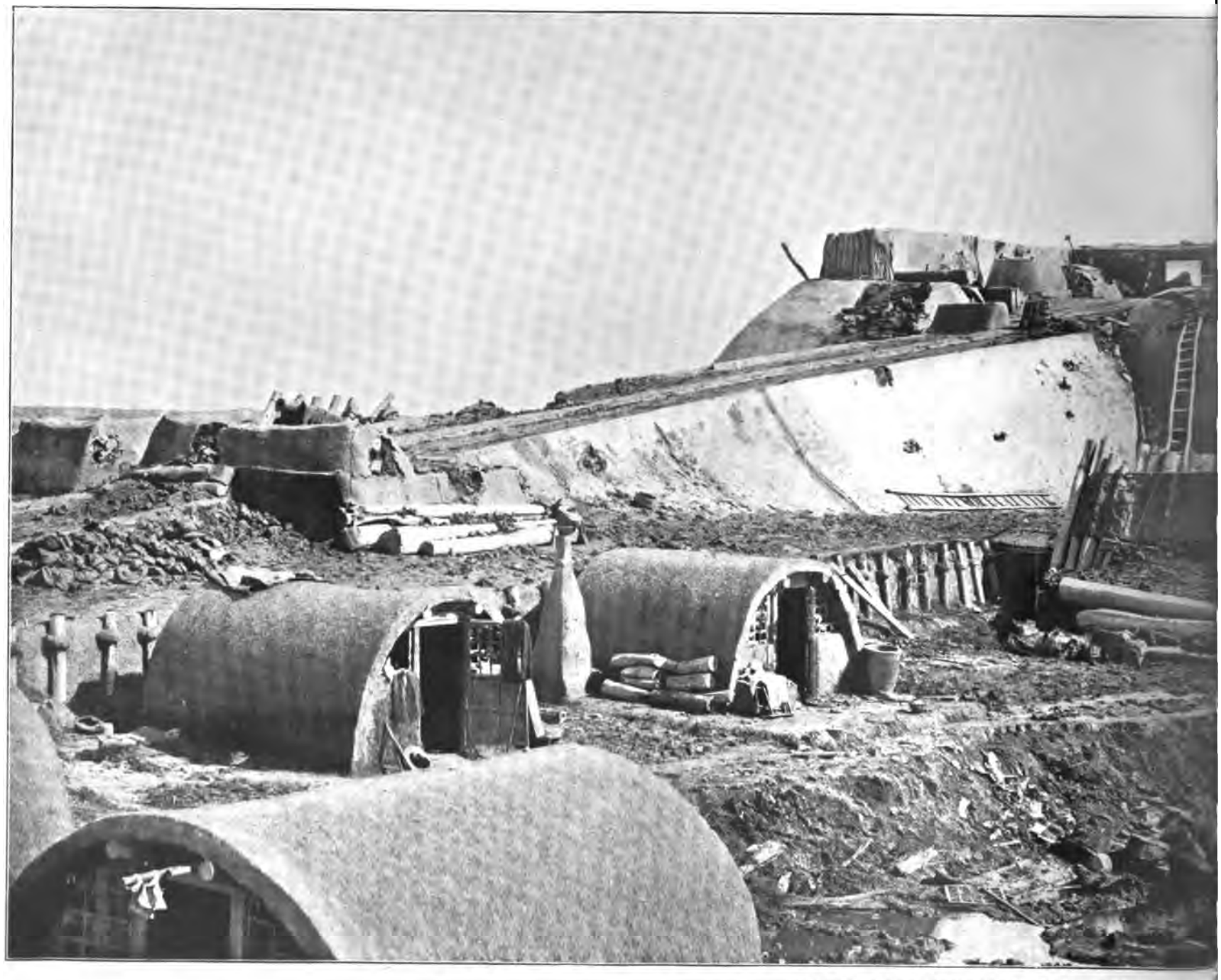
The strength of the forts from the land side lies principally in the nature of the country surrounding

OUTSIDE OF NORTH TAKU FORT, STORMED BY THE ALLIES ON AUGUST 21, 1860.

OUTSIDE NORTH TAKU FORT, ENTRANCE OF THE BRITISH.

INTERIOR OF NORTH TAKU FORT, ENGLISH ENTRANCE.

INTERIOR OF NORTH TAKU FORT, NEAR FRENCH ENTRANCE.



GREAT NORTHERN FORT, TAKU, CAPITULATED

21, 2,000 MEN LAYING DOWN THEIR ARMS.

Description of Taku Forts and nature of country surrounding them.

them. The land is low, and intersected everywhere with broad and deep dykes, up which the tide runs. These dykes all require bridges across them. Added to these difficulties, the country is impassable for guns after heavy rain, becoming a perfect swamp.

The Fort which was taken by escalade was closed in its rear with earthwork of the most solid description, the inner part of the parapet being further strengthened by massive blocks of upright timber. Two ditches, each about 25 feet in breadth, surrounded the Fort except where it rested on the river. Bamboo stakes, charred and sharpened at their points, were buried firmly into the earth with their points upward, covered the intervening space between the ditch and the wall, and proved a difficult obstacle. Men falling down from the scaling-ladders were impaled on them.

The stakes and booms across the mouth of the river were rapidly removed by our gunboats.

The Admiral proceeds to Tientsin.

On the 23rd of August the Admiral went up to Tientsin with some English and French gunboats. The keys of the town were made over to him by a deputation of the principal people.

Troops follow; also Lord Elgin and Sir Hope Grant.

The 67th, a Battery of Armstrong guns with their horses, and the 1st Royals followed on the 24th and 25th. Lord Elgin and Sir H. Grant went up on the latter day.

Bridge of boats finished.

The bridge of boats[1] was finished on the 24th.

Town of Taku.

The town from which the Taku Forts take their name is situated on the right bank of the river, near the large South Fort. Toong-ku and Si-ku join it. The whole town is commonly known by the name of Taku, and probably has a population of 20,000. At ordinary times supplies of all sorts are procurable. A market was established outside the South Fort the day after we occupied it, to which sheep, fruit, poultry, and vegetables were brought for sale. The people who during the panic had fled from the town flocked back in a few days, and confidence was thoroughly restored.

The capture of the forts would have been difficult, had the Peitang-ho been as strongly defended.

Had the entrance to the Peitang-ho been defended as the Peiho was, the capture of the Forts would have been a most difficult enterprise.

The cavalry march to Tientsin.

The Cavalry, with Sterling's Battery, marched for Tientsin on the 25th up the left bank of the river, crossing the Peiho at the bridge of boats at Tientsin (see route in Appendix).

The 1st Division march.

The 1st Division marched for Tientsin on the 30th up the right bank of the river by the main road, crossing the Peiho at the bridge of boats at Sinho (see route in Appendix).

The French march.

The French marched on the same day up the left bank.

Description of transport used in the country.

At Taku, Tientsin, Pekin, and throughout the country generally, a large wheelbarrow is used by the people to convey their goods and chattels from place to place, especially in and around large towns; these wheelbarrows are seen in great numbers both at Taku and Tientsin. One man, sometimes two, act as leaders. In this way a weight of 240 lbs. was

[1] Constructed where the Sinho Canal meets the Peiho.

carried, marching daily, between Tientsin and Pekin. Carts drawn by mules and ponies are abundant everywhere between Taku and Pekin. They are sometimes drawn by as many as four mules and ponies, one in the shafts and three abreast as leaders ; the largest description of cart easily carried 800 lbs.

The mules and ponies of the country are remarkably fine and strong, and well adapted for cart or gun draught. They are numerous throughout the valley of the Peiho.

At Pekin only did we see camels in any numbers. They were very fine ones, resembling the Cabul camels in appearance and stature.

Our Gunboats were meanwhile busily employed in carrying stores of all kinds to Tientsin. The voyage was sometimes performed in 8 hours.

Arrival of 1st Division at Tientsin.

The advance-guard of the 1st Division arrived at Tientsin on the evening of the 2nd of September, and the main body on the following morning, and encamped on a large grassy plain on the South of the town.

Ditto of 2nd Division.

The 2nd Division reached on the 5th.

The French were encamped on the N. side of the river.

Supplies at Tientsin.

During the halt of the Allies at Tientsin supplies of every kind, including sheep and cattle, were abundant. The most delicious grapes and peaches could be bought in the market at a low price. Huge blocks of clear ice were hawked about the camp, and bought for a few cash.

Bell tents.

At Tientsin, as at Sinho, our bell tents were often unpleasantly warm during the daytime. The Indian tents which had been brought from Hong-Kong were issued to the troops in lieu of bell tents a few days previous to our advance on Pekin, but were left behind.

Tentes d'abri.

The French army used their *tentes d'abri* throughout the campaign.

The entrenchment thrown up around Tientsin.

Earthworks on a gigantic scale had been thrown up round Tientsin. The two forts built below the town on the right and left bank of the river were similar in construction to the Taku forts.

The town of Tientsin is built on the right bank of the Peiho, in the angle formed by the junction of that river with the 'Yulian-ho,' or Grand Canal. A brick wall some thirty feet in height, now old and crumbling, encloses it. The town has four gates. Extensive suburbs exist on the N., the E., and the W. of it. The population (including suburbs) is probably 150,000. Some of the streets are paved, and all the principal ones are wide enough for carts to proceed in single file, but will not admit of their passing each other, except in a few places. The Grand Canal is little less in size than the Peiho. The latter at Tientsin does not exceed eighty yards in width. The road to Pekin leads across the canal by a bridge of boats.

Description of the town of Tientsin.

The Grand Canal.

The Pekin road.

Strongest point for military occupation at Tientsin.

The strongest point in Tientsin for military occupation is the suburb between the Grand Canal and the Peiho. The Peiho, Grand Canal, When-ho,

and the smaller canal which runs into the Peiho between the two last-named ones, are crowded with junks of all shapes and sizes.[1] The only canal which branched from the Peiho between Tientsin and Taku was one a few miles below the former place. It was wide enough for small junks, and led in the direction of the Peitang-ho. During the early part of September the country on the south of Tientsin was covered with crops of Indian corn. From the 1st of September the nights became cooler and the dews heavier. During the daytime the sun was warm, and on one occasion a hot wind blew from the S.W. The heat, however, during August or the earlier part of September was never such as to distress the troops or prevent their marching at all hours.

Numerous junks.

Climate of Pecheli during August and September.

Baggage of the army and clothing of the troops.

The baggage of the army was all landed from the ships and placed in the South Taku Fort. Such as was required was being brought up when the sudden move of the army took place. The troops were in their summer clothing, the same they had landed in, and only carried either a greatcoat or blanket when they moved on Pekin. When the cold weather set in, some warm blankets were brought up from the rear and given to the troops.

Advance of the army ordered.

On the 7th of September the army was ordered to advance on Tung-chow, the Chinese Commissioner having declared his inability to accept the terms demanded by the Ambassador.

It was hoped that an immediate advance of our troops towards Pekin would have the desired effect. The rumour current on our arrival at Tientsin, viz. that Sangolinsin had been degraded by the Emperor, and sent off in disgrace to his estates on the Amoor, was no longer circulated. He had now regained the Imperial favour, and was determined to oppose our advance on Pekin.

Movement of troops.

On the morning of the 8th two Regiments of Cavalry, 1½ Batteries of Artillery, accompanied by a small force of Infantry, marched from Tientsin and encamped at Si-ku, on the far bank of the When-ho. On the 9th Sir H. Grant and Lord Elgin followed, and on the 10th some French troops.

Transport.

A large portion of our Transport had been taken from Regiments to enable the Commissariat to carry grain for the Cavalry; consequently, when the advance of more troops was ordered, a requisition had to be made on local resources. The flight of the Imperial Commissioner and of the Governor-General of the Province from Tientsin had caused a panic in the town, and compelled us to seize carriages. Many of the cart-drivers, coolies, and wheelbarrow men absconded during the first march.

Country favourable for military operations.

The country we were about to move through was very favourable for military operations. The road as far as Tung-chow lay near the bank of the Peiho, which was navigable throughout for junks of

[1] On the left bank of the river, below the town, enormous quantities of salt were stacked. The huge piles of it extended for fully a mile in length and several yards in depth.

small draught, hundreds of which could be seized at Tientsin for the conveyance of our stores and material. No advantage was, however, taken of this mode of transport until our Land Transport had been found utterly insufficient for our requirements.

Every inch of the country was covered with crops of Indian corn, millet, beans, &c. Cavalry in almost any number might have subsisted on the resources of the country, and required no provision from the Commissariat.

Further movement of troops.

The 2nd Brigade, 1st Division, with Probyn's Horse, a battery of Artillery, and a company of Engineers, under Sir J. Michel, left Tientsin on the 13th (see route from Tientsin to Pekin in Appendix), and closed on the Commander-in-Chief on the 16th at Ho-see-woo, 42 miles in advance of Tientsin.

Diplomacy at work.

Previous to his (Sir J. Michel's) arrival at that place it had been arranged between Lord Elgin and the Chinese Commissioner (a fresh one had been sent down to reopen negotiations) that the allied force was to halt short of Tung-chow, in a place to be pointed out by the Chinese authorities, from whence Lord Elgin was to proceed to Pekin for the purpose of ratifying the Treaty.

Advance of the allies from Ho-see-woo.

The Allies marched to Matow on the following day, and on the 18th, when on the march towards Tung-chow, they came on the Tartar army entrenched in a position commanding the road, five miles beyond it.

Action of Chang-kya-wan.

The Allies numbered about 600 Cavalry, 20 guns, and 2,500 Infantry.

It is here necessary to mention that Mr. Parkes and Mr. Loch (Lord Elgin's private secretary), accompanied by Colonel Walker, Assistant-Quartermaster-General of the Cavalry Brigade, a Commissariat officer, Mr. Bowlby the 'Times' correspondent, and an escort of 20 Sowars, with 3 or 4 Dragoons, under the command of Lieutenant Anderson, of Fane's Horse, had preceded the army from Ho-see-woo in view to arranging some matters connected with diplomacy, the collection of supplies, and the encampment of the Allies.

While waiting until the baggage had been parked in a compact form half a mile in our rear, the Governor-General of the Province approached us, under a flag of truce, with a letter for Lord Elgin (who had remained at Ho-see-woo). Being unable to give a satisfactory explanation relative to the large force in our front, he was sent back to his own camp.

On a sudden a musketry fire ran down the enemy's line, and Colonel Walker, Assistant-Quartermaster-General, accompanied by the Commissariat officer alluded to above, 2 Dragoons, and 2 or 3 Sowars, were seen galloping in hot haste towards the allied force. Treachery had shown itself; some of them were wounded; all had had a narrow escape of their lives. Mr. Parkes, who had ridden back with them from Tung-chow (where the party had passed the night), had returned thither to demand an explanation of the Mandarins relative to the armed force.

Mr. Loch had brought in a note from Mr. Parkes previous to the act of treachery above related, and had immediately returned to endeavour to extricate Mr. Parkes. Captain Brabazon, Deputy Assistant-Quartermaster-General of Artillery, accompanied him, and was amongst the number subsequently murdered. Of all who fell into the enemy's hands, Messrs. Parkes, Loch, a French officer, 3 or 4 privates, and a few Sowars only were returned to us alive.

No sooner had the enemy shown their hostile intentions than they drove in our pickets, and forced us to make immediate dispositions for attacking them.

The French,[1] with a squadron of Fane's Horse, advanced against the enemy's left on village A. B was occupied by two companies of the 99th, supported by two or three other companies of that Regiment and 400 Marines, to prevent the enemy breaking our centre. A Battery of Armstrong guns, the 15th Punjab Infantry, and the bulk of our Cavalry were held in readiness to advance on village C as soon as Sir J. Michel, with one squadron of Probyn's Horse, three guns, and the 2nd Queen's, had gained possession of village D, and turned the enemy's right flank, on which were drawn up the greater part of his Cavalry. Both flanks were turned. Our left flank was greatly overlapped by the hordes of Mongol Cavalry, and the small force of Cavalry which we opposed to them did not allow Sir J. Michel to follow up his success until reinforced by more Cavalry from the centre. The enemy's Cavalry was pursued for 4 miles at a brisk pace. Meanwhile our centre advanced rapidly against village C, and pushed the enemy's routed troops through Chang-kya-wan, destroying several camps a mile in front of it. The British found quarters inside the town. Our allies encamped two miles short of it.

77 guns were the fruits of this victory. The enemy's loss was considerable on his left and centre, where he had placed the greater portion of his Infantry.

Chang-kya-wan.

Chang-kya-wan is a small town surrounded by a very dilapidated wall. The road runs through a large suburb, and crosses a small stream by a stone bridge at the entrance to the town. It probably contains a population of 10,000. Immense stores of brick tea, ready packed for the Russian market, were found here. Its value was estimated at 250,000*l*. Small junks ascend the stream from the Peiho as high as the town.

Quantity of tea found there.

Reinforcements of French troops arrive.

Previous to our advance the French had received a reinforcement of a Battery of Artillery and some Infantry from Ho-see-woo, and the British a convoy of provisions.

Action of Tung-chow.

On the 21st the army again advanced. The baggage was all parked two miles beyond the town under a strong escort. We had proceeded but 1½ miles further when we sighted the enemy's

[1] See sketch.

Cavalry.[1] Our Infantry had been marching in mass of columns, with the Cavalry on our left and the French on our right, and on emerging from a grove the head of the column had hardly time to deploy, and the guns to open fire, before the Mongol Cavalry had charged down on them. A few rounds emptied several saddles, and our Cavalry, advancing, seized the opportunity of making a most effective charge. The country was unknown to us, and in places considerably wooded. The tall minaret of Tung-chow was visible, and bore N.W. by N. at about 4 miles distance.

Action of Pa-li-kyao.

Fortune favoured the Allies. Our disposition for attack would have been nearly the same had we possessed more accurate maps of the locality. The enemy's line was thrown back on the canal, and their communications with Pekin by the nearest route threatened. The Allied line was necessarily much extended, so as not to be overlapped by the hordes of Mongol Cavalry. The French struck the canal at the Pa-li-kyao bridge on the paved road leading from Tung-chow to Pekin, and the British right at a lock 1½ miles above it. The left of the British, with the whole of the Cavalry, pushed the enemy towards Pekin, burning several large camps within 6 miles of the capital. 43 guns fell into the hands of the Allies, and not less than 1,000 of the enemy and a vast number of horses strewed the field of battle. The Mongol Cavalry numbered not less than 15,000 or 20,000. The victory was decisive, and Pekin lay open to us.

[1] See sketch.

English and French encamp after the action.

The baggage was brought up before evening, and the camp pitched; the French at the Pa-li-kyao bridge, and the English at the lock in the canal 1½ miles above it.

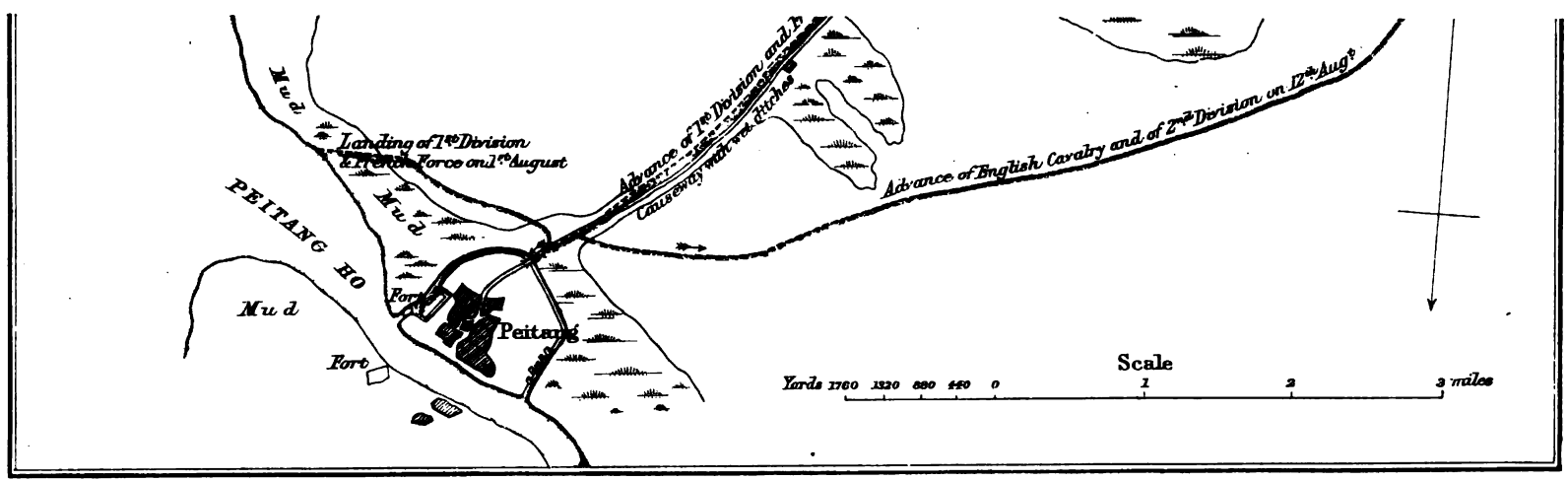
Tung-chow.

The large town of Tung-chow[2] was ours.

It is built on the right bank of an affluent of the Peiho, the latter river taking a more northerly direction a short distance below the town. A wall, in tolerable repair, 15 feet thick, and from 30 to 35 in height, runs round the town, measuring nearly 5 miles. The parapet has been worn down by age, and time has cleared away almost all traces of a ditch. There are 5 gates, the positions of which are noted in the sketch. There is also an outlet for water in the angle between the two gates on the S. face (its height 9 feet, and width 7), a wooden palisading only preventing access to and egress from the town. In many places the suburbs lie close up to the town walls, under cover of which the walls may be approached. The shape of the gateways, as at Pekin, is here shown, the gates being built some 6 feet within the archways, and affording cover to a party adjusting powder-bags to blow them open. The outer one being blown open, a gun might easily be run inside the court to blow open the inner one, a few riflemen keeping down the fire from the wall.

[2] See plan of it in sketch.

PA-LI-KYAO BRIDGE, ON THE PAVED ROAD BETWEEN TUNG-CHOW AND PEKIN.



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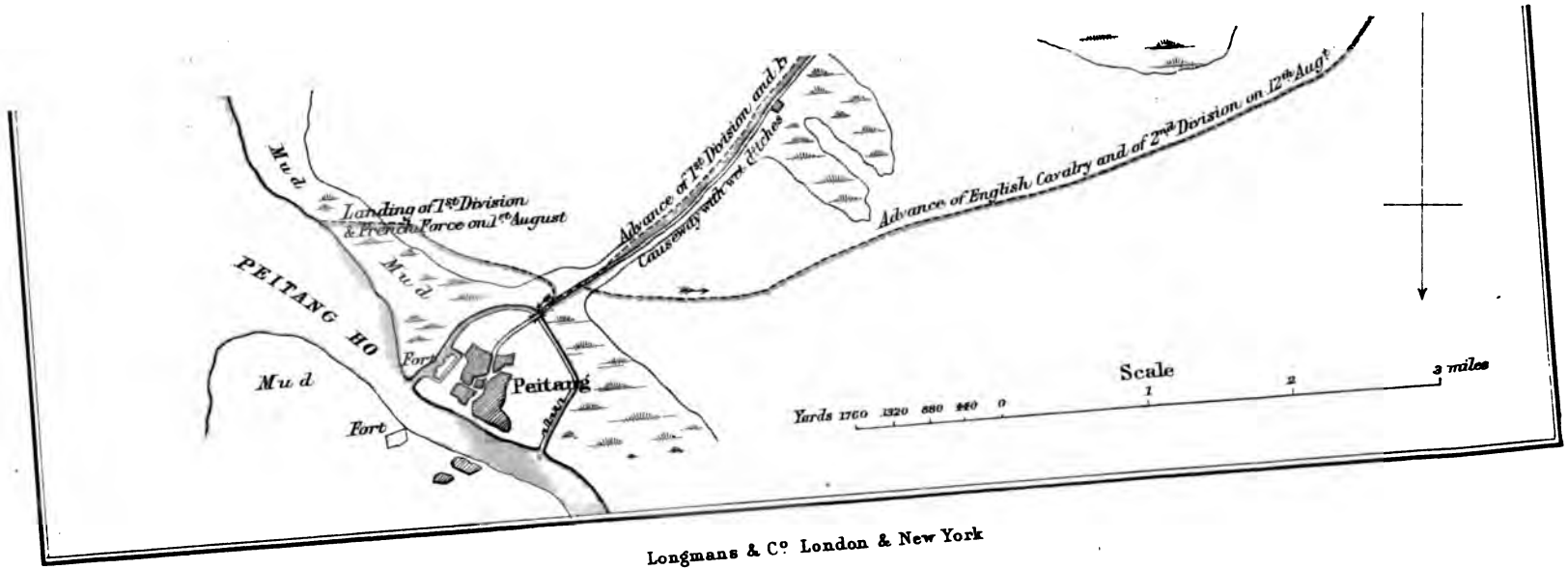

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SKETCH

from

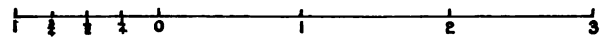
PEITANG & TAKU TO TIENSIN & HOO-SI WOO

Surveyed in 1860

by

LIEUT. G. ALLGOOD, D.A.Q^{R} M^{R} GENERAL.

Scale. ¼ inch - 1 mile



Large plain covere

The brick revetment of the wall is two feet thick at the top; inside the masonry it is earth. Ramps leading on to the walls were only seen at the gateways. The principal streets of the town are paved, and are wider than at Tientsin. The houses are not built so closely, and a large space is taken up by the public granaries, which are enclosed by a wall about 18 feet in height. Judging from appearances, the population of Tung-chow is about the same as Tientsin.

The paved road to Pekin.

The paved road to Pekin, averaging 18 feet in width, leaves Tung-chow by the W. gate. It crosses the canal at the Pa-li-kyao bridge and enters Pekin by the Chao-yang gate. It is paved with huge slabs of stone, but is in such bad repair that it is unfit for laden carts.

The navigation of the Peiho from Tientsin to Tung-chow.

The branch of the Peiho on which Tung-chow is built is 20 yards in width. The Peiho where it leaves it is perhaps 30 yards. Small junks come up to Tung-chow. Our siege guns, material, and stores of every description were brought up by the Peiho route. Boats with 15-inch draught made the passage in 5 or 6 days and returned in 3. The junks in which our siege guns (68-pounders) were shipped drew 18 inches, made a longer passage, and met with difficulties. A company of Engineers accompanied them, and cut the boats out wherever they grounded. Between Tientsin and Yang-tsun large boats find no difficulties.

Canal leading from Tung-chow to Pekin.

There is a wide canal between Tung-chow and Pekin, but boats must unship their cargo 4 times, the locks being so constructed that they cannot be passed. Superfluous water is carried off the canal into the Peiho by a sluice at Tung-chow. The former is several feet above the level of the latter.

Nearest road to Pekin.

The nearest road from Chang-kya-wan to Pekin leaves the Pa-li-kyao bridge about 2 miles to the right and enters the capital on the south side. Cart-roads intersect the country in all directions.

Aspect of country favourable for feeding and for movements of cavalry.

On the departure of the Army from Tientsin the Indian corn was still standing. Beyond Ho-see-woo (it ripened somewhat earlier, the soil was lighter and drier) we found it all cut. The aspect of the country had undergone a marvellous change. A few days before, and no cavalry could have left the road; now the entire country was a vast open plain, free from all obstacles. Forage was everywhere abundant. Our horses, etc., between 3 and 4,000 in number, subsisted for 14 days on the forage within the pickets.

It is worthy of note that a large force of Cavalry may campaign in the valley of the Peiho between August and 1st November without the least aid from the Commissariat. The horses became accustomed to Indian corn and millet seed, and throve well.

The army halts.

From the 22nd of September until the 2nd of

Arrival of troops from rear.

October the Army halted near Tung-chow, awaiting the arrival of reinforcements, siege train, ammunition, and commissariat stores. Sir R. Napier joined us from Tientsin with the 67th Regiment, 8th Punjab Infantry, a company of Engineers, and some Madras sappers. The 60th Rifles came up from Ho-see-woo, on being relieved by 31st from Tientsin.

Troops stationed on the road between Tientsin and Tung-chow.

The places held by us between Tientsin and Tung-chow were as follows:—

Yang-tsun	Det. Irregular Cavalry 2 coms. of Infantry	English
Ho-see-woo[1]	½ battery of Artillery Det. Irregular Cavalry 8 coms. of Infantry.	English
Chang-kya-wan	2 coms. of Infantry Det. Irregular Cavalry.	(French)

Tung-chow was held by 2 Guns and 400 Marines.

Rain falls and weather changes.

During the nights of the 29th and 30th rain fell. A cold wind set in from the North and brought with it a perceptible change of weather.

British make reconnaissances.

Two or three reconnaissances had been pushed up to the gates of Pekin on both sides of the canal, and it had been ascertained that no force lay between us and the city.

Emperor's flight to Giho.

It was subsequently ascertained that the Emperor had fled to Giho, in Tartary, on or about the date of our action at Chang-kya-wan. Our intelligence was, however, very defective, and led us to believe that he was still at his Summer Palace of Yuen-ming-yuen.

Our intelligence defective.

[1] A general hospital was formed here, and a large commissariat depôt.

Letters from Pekin, under flags of truce, arrived constantly in camp.

Arrival of siege guns and advance of the Allies.

On the 2nd and 3rd, the siege guns having arrived, the British army crossed the canal by a bridge of boats, and by a bridge made by us at the lock, and encamped 1½ miles on the Pekin road, where it had been determined to form a depôt of stores and baggage.

Depôt formed by the British.

The 1st Royals arrived in camp on the night of the 4th.

Bivouac at the brick kilns, where the French form a Depôt.

On the 5th the Allies advanced towards Pekin, the British leaving their tents and baggage at the depôt. The French, who had come up with their baggage from Pa-li-kyao Bridge, were fagged on reaching some brick-kilns two miles from the N.E. corner of Pekin, and induced Sir H. Grant to halt there for the night. These kilns formed an excellent position for the French depôt, as they were capable of defence by a small body of troops, and afforded a large supply of water.

The British left their knapsacks there.

The reader is requested to refer to the plan of Pekin.

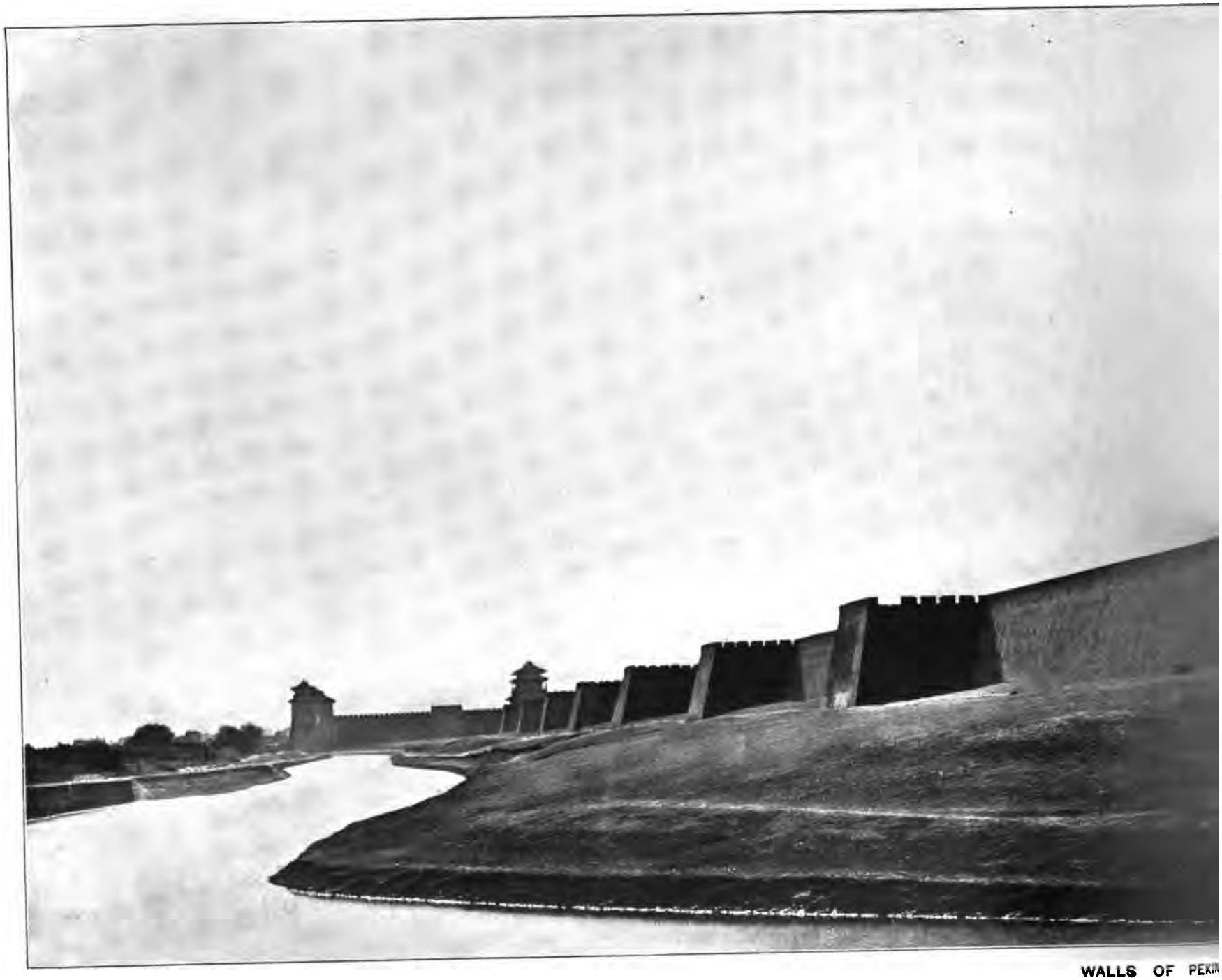
The enemy were said to be entrenched on the N. of the town inside an embankment.

Allies move forward to attack the enemy at Pekin.

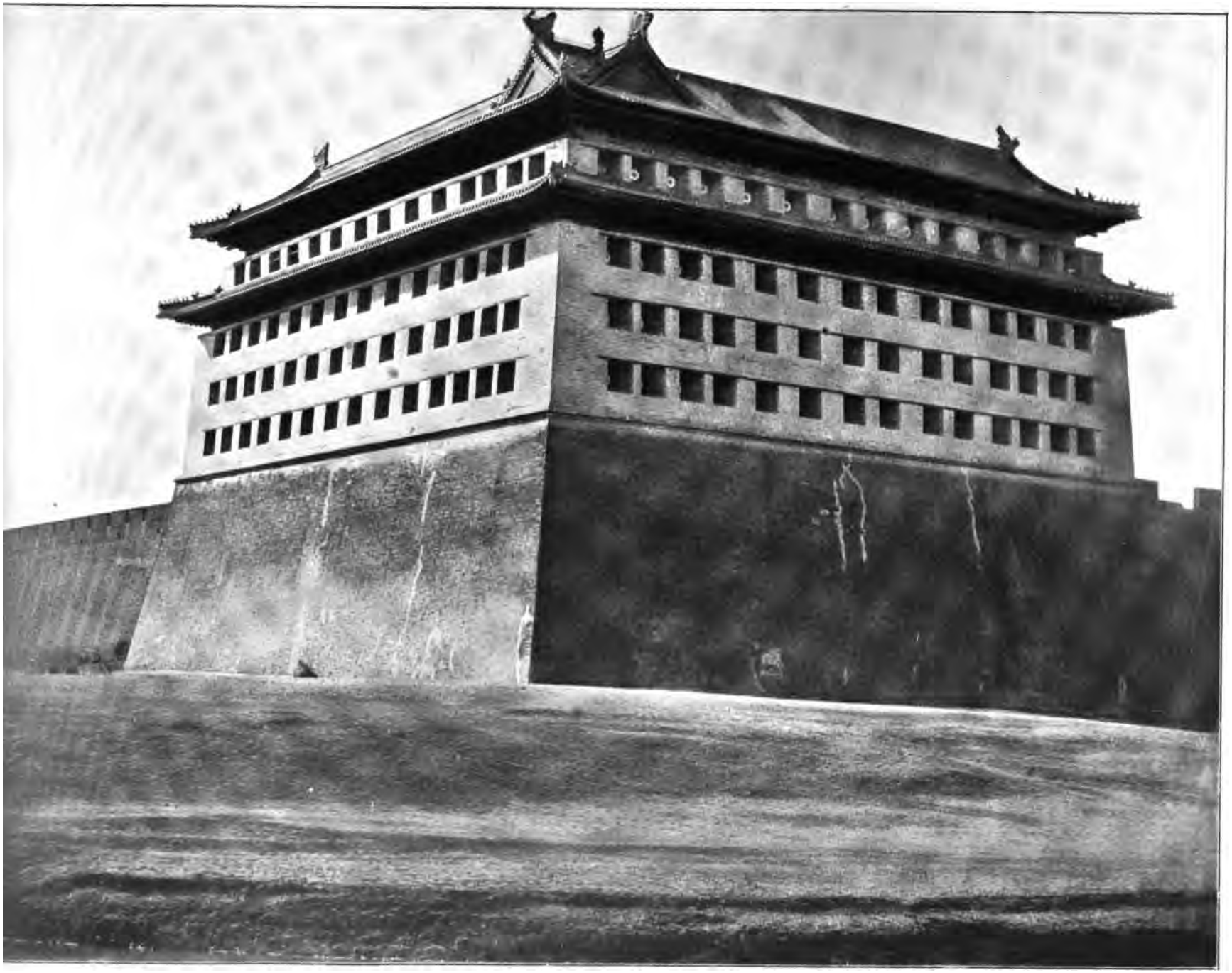
Early on the 6th the Allies moved forward to attack the supposed enemy, the French on the left and the British on the right, the Cavalry moving round on to the Yuen-ming-yuen road so as to intercept the enemies' retreat.

Discovering the position vacated,

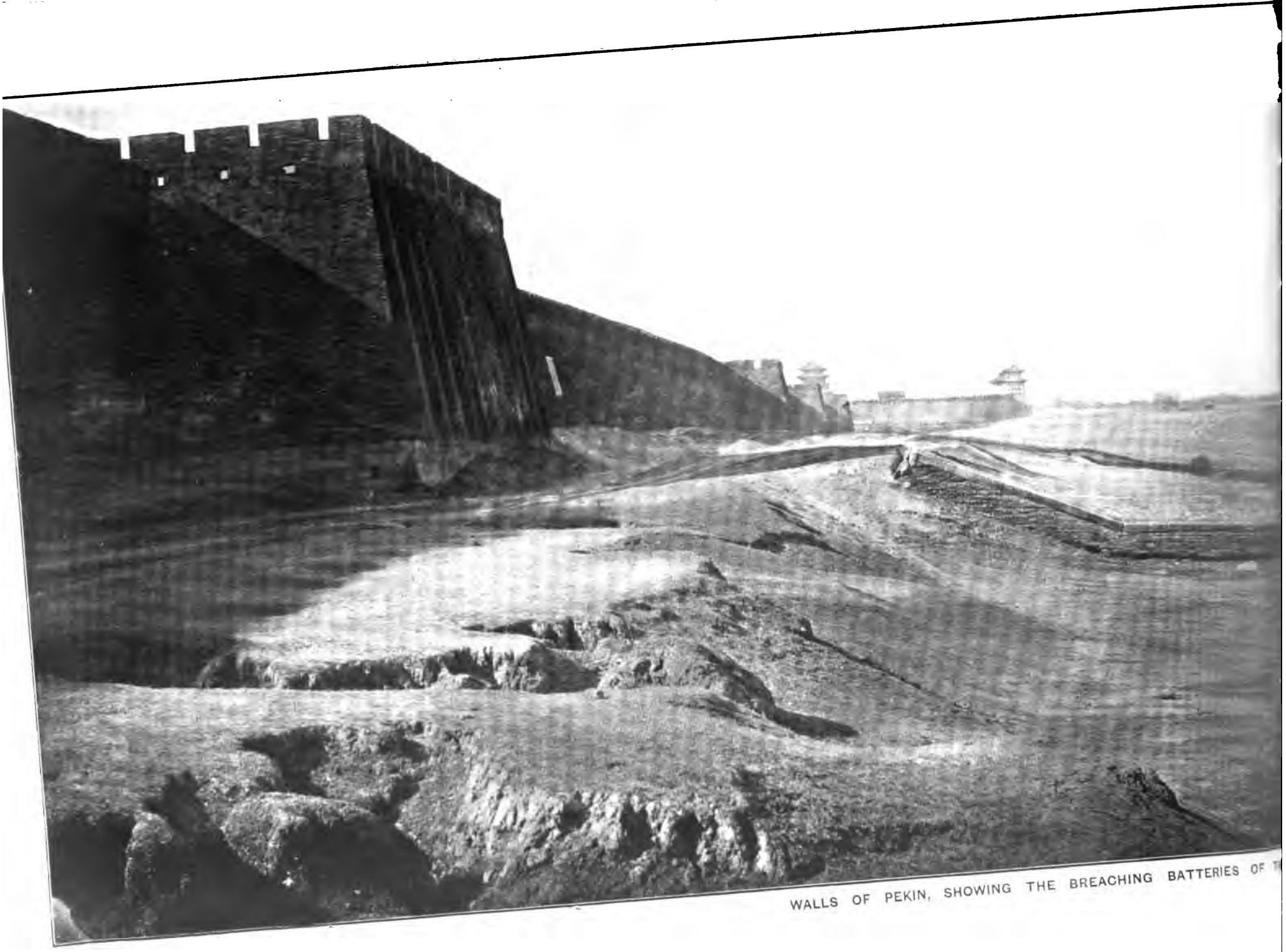
On discovering that the position was vacated, the French moved direct on Yuen-ming-yuen, which was



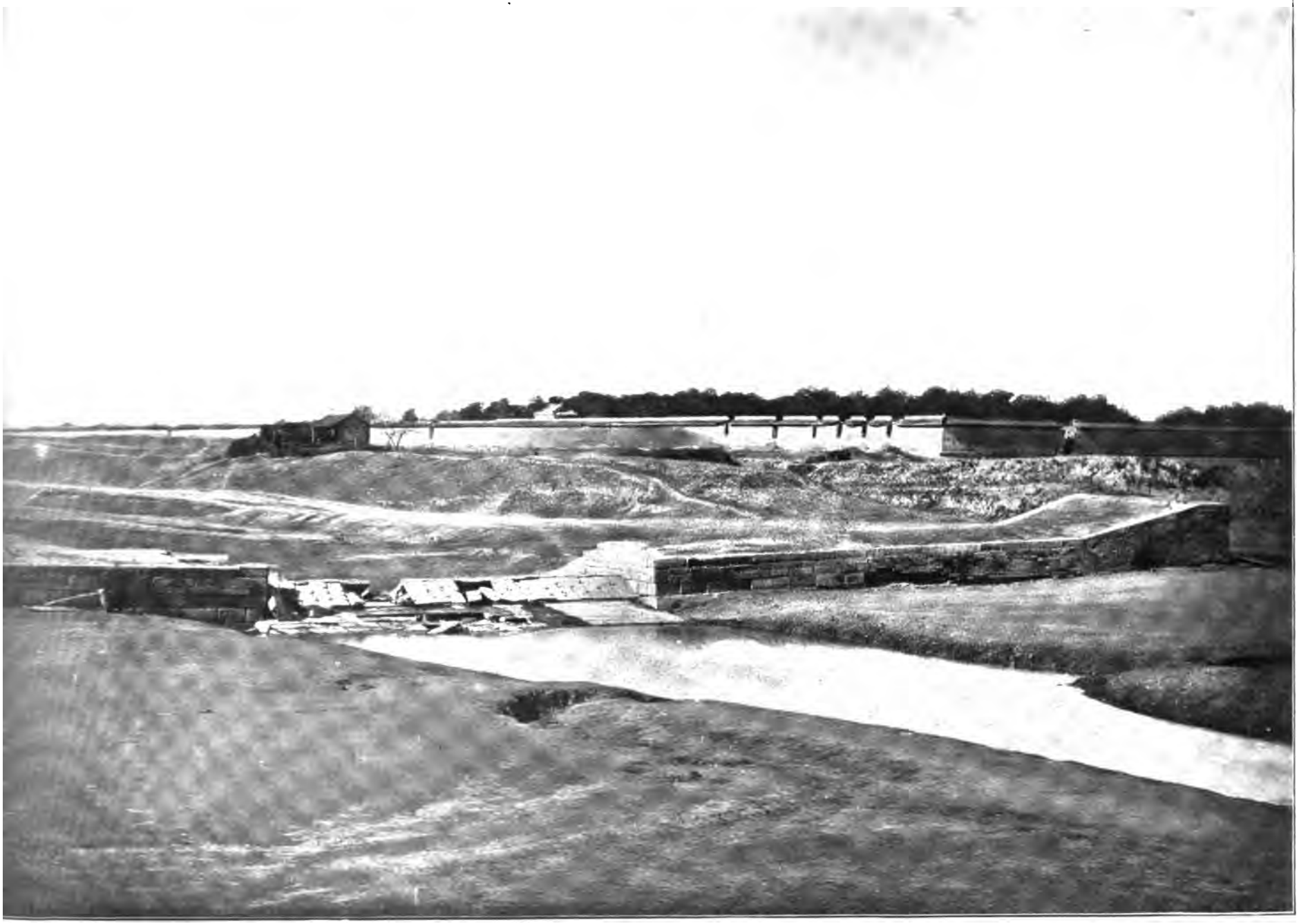
WALLS OF PEKI



AST CORNER.



WALLS OF PEKIN, SHOWING THE BREACHING BATTERIES OF T



ES IN THE GARDEN OF THE TEMPLE OF THE EARTH.

THE ANTING GATE, PEKIN.

RAMPART OF THE WALLS OF PEKIN, NEAR ANTING GATE.

French advance on Yuen-ming-yuen.

5 miles distant on the N.W. of the city, at the foot of the hills, and were joined by our Cavalry near the Summer Palace.

British occupy suburbs on the N. of city.

The British occupied the suburbs in front of the Te-shing-mun (gate) of the city, throwing forward their pickets within 500 yards of the walls.

A few horsemen were the only enemy seen throughout the day. 1,700 sheep were captured in the suburb.

Country thickly wooded.

The country round Pekin was found to be more thickly wooded than any we had moved through.

Yuen-ming-yuen.

The Palace of Yuen-ming-yuen was thoroughly gutted on the few following days. Everything of value that could be carried off, consisting of gold, silver, clocks, watches, enamels, porcelain, jade stone, silks and embroidery, with numerous other articles of *vertu*, were removed by the Allies. The palace grounds cover a large extent, and are enclosed by a substantial park wall. They are laid out with great taste. Artificial water, canals, rockwork, grottoes, pagodas, hills and valleys beautifully wooded with cedar and fir trees delight the eye, the picturesque scenery varying at every turn of the winding pathways.

The town of Hai-tien lies on the S. of the palace, the entrance to which was guarded by two colossal bronze lions. A wide road leads from the Si-chyh-mun (gate) of the city direct to the palace.

The Emperor passed nearly all his time at his favourite palace, seldom residing in Pekin except when his attendance compelled him to do so.

Weather becomes cold.

The nights were becoming cold, and the troops, who were all wearing their summer clothing, received some warm underclothing and blankets soon after our arrival at Pekin.

Messrs. Parke, Loch, and others given up.

On the 8th Mr. Parkes, Loch, a French officer, 4 privates, and a sowar were given up by the Chinese.

Our siege guns placed in position.

On the 9th our heavy guns and baggage were brought into camp, and on the 11th the siege guns were placed in position in the grounds of the 'Temple of the Earth,' within 150 yards of the walls.

Remainder of surviving prisoners given up.

The remainder of the surviving prisoners were now delivered up. From them we heard of the inhuman cruelties which had caused the death of the others.

The Ambassadors compel Chinese to accede to their terms.

The Ambassadors were now free to act, and allowed the Chinese 48 hours to accede to their demands and open the Anting Gate, or to abide the consequences.

Anting Gate delivered up to us.

The gate was delivered over to the Allies as agreed on at noon of the 13th, and was immediately occupied by strong detachments from both armies, and the flags of both nations were hoisted high above the gateway.

Rain falls; summits of hills covered with snow

On the night of the 15th rain fell, and on the following morning the summits of the hills were covered with snow.

Funeral of our murdered comrades.

On the 17th the funerals of our murdered comrades took place in the Russian cemetery.[1] The day was cold and cloudy, with a cutting North wind.

Burning of the Palace of Yuen-ming-yuen.

On the 18th a force was sent out under Sir J. Michel to burn the Palace of Yuen-ming-yuen. It was notified

[1] See coloured picture by native artist

to the Chinese that this retributive act on our part was performed to mark our detestation and abhorrence of the foul murder of our countrymen, who had been treacherously captured and put to death while under a flag of truce. During the same afternoon, and throughout the 19th, the sky was overcast by the dense smoke of the conflagrations.[1]

Treaty ratified and fresh convention signed by the British.

On the 24th the Treaty was ratified, and a new convention signed by the British and Chinese respectively in one of the public offices in the heart of the city. The British Ambassador was accompanied by a mixed escort of 1,000 men, and Sir R. Napier so arranged the troops of his Division at various points of the town that treachery (rumours of which were current) was impossible.

The French ratify their Treaty.

The French Ambassador ratified his treaty on the following day.

Lord Elgin resides in Pekin.

From the 27th of October until the departure of the British from Pekin Lord Elgin resided in the city.

Description of Pekin.

Pekin—the court of the north, or Shun-tyen-fu—is divided into two cities, viz. the 'inner' and 'outer' city, or more generally known under the appellations of the 'Tartar' and 'Chinese' cities. The 'inner' or 'Tartar' city is almost square, and separated by a lofty wall from the 'outer' or 'Chinese' city. The *entire* city is surrounded by a high and massive wall, and has 13 gates. Over each gateway, and at each corner of the town, are built pagoda-shaped barracks of four storeys in height, which tower over the surrounding buildings. Besides these gates there are three others which connect the two cities. Within the 'inner' or 'Tartar' city is built the 'Imperial' city, shut out from the rest of the city by a wall 25 feet high and 6 feet thick, and inside the latter the Palace of the Emperor, surrounded by a wall and shallow ditch 100 feet in width. The ditch was dry, and does not appear to hold water except in rainy weather. The wall on the North face of the 'inner' city averaged 42 feet in height, and 55 feet in thickness at its summit. At the base it is considerably more. Its brick revetment on the outer face was 6 feet, and on the inner 3 feet in thickness. Eight feet of loop-holed parapet may be knocked off by field guns, thus reducing the height to 34 feet. On the North face ramps lead up to the wall at the gateways, and at one place only intermediately between them. The circumference of Pekin, according to the Russian plan (which is the best extant), measures about 21 English miles. On the Northern face there remains but the bare semblance of a ditch. A horse may jump across the water. On the Eastern face it is more marked, and the water wider and deeper. The writer cannot speak as to the other faces, except on the North-West, where the ditch is similar to that on the North. The walls are in good repair,

[1] On the 20th the Chinese had agreed to pay the sum of 100,000 taels as an indemnity for the murder of the prisoners. In case this should not have been carried out, it was determined—in fact, the party had been already detailed—to assault the Palace in Pekin at 8 A.M. that day.

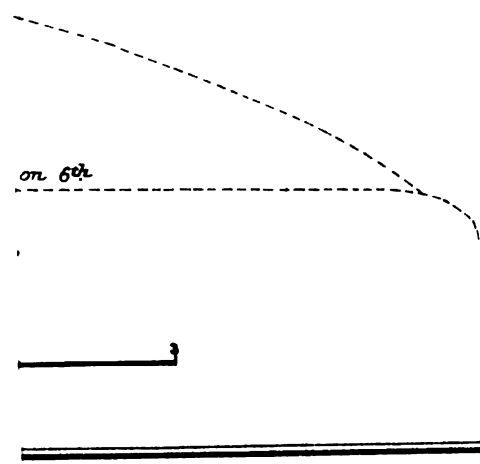
VIEW IN THE GROUNDS OF YUEN-MING-YUEN, OR SUMMER PALACE OF THE EMPEROR, NEAR PEKIN.

PRINCE KUNG, CHINESE AMBASSADOR.

LORD ELGIN, BRITISH AMBASSADOR.

VIEW OF PEKIN, WITHIN THE WALLS.

THE TEMPLE OF HEAVEN, PEKIN, ROOFED WITH BLUE TILES.


on 6th

and could not be breached except by the heaviest guns or by mining. The gates, if not built up inside, might be blown open with powder bags, being similar to, but on a larger scale than, those at Tung-chow. Between the outer and inner gates there is an extensive *place d'armes*. The possession of the Anting-mun made us masters of the town. Cannon were planted over the gateway to sweep the wide straight street leading up to it, and sand-bag traverses thrown up on the top of the wall at 400 yards' distance on either side of the gateway to repel attacks from those quarters. Unlike the towns in the South of China, the streets of Pekin are very wide and straight, running at right angles to each other, some of the streets being 50 yards wide. The houses are single-storeyed, and built of inflammable material. Live Carcases or shells thrown into the city on a windy day would at once set the buildings in a blaze. Compared with the noble walls, the houses of the city present a mean appearance, and do not indicate such wealth as might be expected in so renowned a capital. The streets are densely crowded with human beings. There are cart stands in every main street, and camels and mule carts meet the traveller at every step. Children's perambulators are not uncommon, and itinerant vendors of tea, fruit, vegetables, and all sorts of viands and curiosities, hawk about their wares on wheelbarrows. Fortune-tellers, jugglers, and storytellers amuse the people with their anecdotes and tricks, and elicit approval from their ragged audience. The fur shops are very numerous, and appear to drive a brisk trade at the commencement of winter. The 'Imperial' city is more poor and wretched in appearance than the other parts of Pekin. Our Generals were alone permitted to enter the Palace, and they represented the buildings to be mean and unpretending. The public offices lie between the South wall of the 'Imperial' city and the wall of the 'Chinese' city. There are but few buildings in and around Pekin worthy of remark. The chief one amongst them is the 'Altar of Heaven,' situate in the Chinese town in an extensive walled park on the left hand of the wood as you pass down the street from the Ching-yung-mun. The 'Temple of Grain and Husbandry' is on the opposite side of the road. A great portion of the space enclosed by the wall of the 'Chinese' city is devoted to these parks. The Temple of Confucius, with its adjoining college, is pretty without possessing any pretension to grandeur, and a monument in the grounds of the Llama Temple, on the North side of the city, has exquisite carving on it. The Allies had free access to all parts of the town except the Imperial Palace.

Judging Pekin by its vast extent, and by its widely scattered and extensive suburbs, its population can be little, if any, short of two millions.

The canal commences on the East face of Pekin, at the junction of the two cities, and appears to be fed principally by water flowing between the 'inner'

and 'outer' city. The paved road from Tung-chow enters Pekin at the Chao-yung-mun.

Meteorological Register.

Amongst the Appendices may be seen a meteorological table of the temperature during the coldest months at Pekin. The houses are kept warm by stoves, in which charcoal and coal are burnt, the latter being brought from the hills within 20 or 30 miles of Pekin. The people, rich and poor, one and all wear furs and sheepskins in winter, according to their means.

The background to Pekin formed by the hills is very picturesque, especially when covered with snow. The highest peaks visible in the further ranges are probably about 8,000 feet.

Rain falls.

On the afternoon of the 26th it rained slightly.

French bury their murdered comrades in the Roman Catholic cemetery.

On the 28th the French buried their murdered Officers in the Roman Catholic cemetery on the West of the city.

Snow falls within 1,200 feet of the plain.

On the morning of the 30th snow was lying on the hills within 1,200 feet of the plain.

French retire from Pekin.

The French Army retired towards Tientsin on the 1st of November, leaving an escort to attend Baron Gros.

The British force was drawn together near the Anting Gate.

The greater part of our troops had been housed since our arrival at Pekin, and were only exposed to the cold when on night duty.

Our siege guns and superfluous Stores having been sent off, half the army retires.

The Siege Guns and superfluous stores having been sent down by water from Tung-chow, with all sickly men, Sir R. Napier, with half the Army, retired on the 7th. On the same day Mr. Bruce reached Pekin, and was introduced to Prince Kung on the following day.

Mr. Bruce reaches Pekin, and is introduced to Prince Kung.

Rear-Guard of the Army leaves Pekin.

The Ambassadors, the Commander-in-Chief, with the remainder of the army under Sir J. Michel, marched at 10 A.M. on the 9th to the Pa-li-kyao bridge, having sent on all the baggage two hours previously.

Reaches Ho-see-woo.

Tientsin garrison halt there till the army has embarked.

On the 11th the Rear-Guard reached Ho-see-woo, where the corps destined to form the Tientsin garrison remained until the troops which had preceded them had embarked.

Rear-Guard reaches Tientsin.

On the 17th the Rear-Guard evacuated Ho-see-woo, and made Tientsin in three marches. On crossing the When-ho large quantities of loose ice were seen floating down the stream.

Snowstorm for two days.

Snow fell on the night of the 19th, and throughout the following day. On the 21st sleet and rain turned the streets of the town into streams of slush.

Cavalry detained at Tientsin on account of bad weather.

The Cavalry were still in camp at Tientsin, and were delayed by the storm. On the 23rd of November they made a forced march to Taku, having previously placed all their baggage and followers in gunboats. For the two following days it snowed heavily in the Gulf of Pecheli, and off the Shantung promontory, accompanied by a bitterly cold wind from the north.

A campaign in the North of China should close by the 15th of November at latest.

G. ALLGOOD, Lt.,
D.A.Q.M. General, 1st Division.

GENERAL SIR ROBERT NAPIER.

GENERAL SIR HOPE GRANT, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

REPORT ON THE ROAD FROM SINHO TO TIENTSIN BY THE LEFT BANK OF THE PEIHO,

MARCHED BY THE CAVALRY BRIGADE IN THE END OF AUGUST 1860

August 25th on Kuntiang-chung (Army Commissariat village). First 3 miles over a grassy plain, dry and flat, then 1½ over an elevated Causeway with deep ditch on either side, surrounding country grassy marsh, then 1 mile more of dry, grassy plain, and road for the remainder of the distance right up to the village was lined on either side with jowaree millet fields, etc. Peiho takes a considerable bend to right after leaving Sinho, and does not approach this village within 2 or 3 miles. Supplies abundant, people civil; water very brackish except at one pond near the village.

Kuntiang-chung, 11 miles.

26th, on the Forts (below Tientsin), where the outer (entrenchment) wall of Tientsin intersects the river, distant 12 miles. Road good, and touches the bends of the river at one or two places; crosses a branch of river (canal) by a good wooden bridge. Country on either side highly cultivated all the way, more particularly the gardens looked uncommonly neat. Passed through a very large town just before reaching the Forts.

Fort on river below Tientsin, 12 miles.

August 27th. Passed through the outer wall (entrenchment) of Tientsin and so along through the suburbs for 2 miles to bridge of boats. Left a large Salt Magazine to our left, about midway, with a wharfage on the river of some 200 yards, and acres of ground covered with stacks of salt. Crossed the Peiho by bridge of boats and entered Tientsin by East gate, about a ¼ of a mile from river; came out at South gate, and encamped outside the outer wall (entrenchment).

Camp on South of the town of Tientsin.

(Signed) STERLING, Cap^{t}., R.A.
(True copy.) G. ALLGOOD, L^{t}.,
D.A.Q.M.G.

REPORT ON THE ROAD FROM TAKU TO TIENTSIN BY THE RIGHT BANK OF THE PEIHO,

MARCHED BY THE 1ST DIVISION OF THE BRITISH ARMY IN AUGUST–SEPTEMBER 1860. (*Vide* SURVEY SKETCH.)

The measurement commences from the gate of Si-ku, from which the main road leads to Tientsin.

The first 4½ miles over a swampy plain, on which are dotted conical tumuli (graves) varying from 6 to 30 feet in height. The road is slightly raised and about 30 feet in breadth, and good in dry weather, in wet weather impassable for carts, being up to the ankles in stiff mud. A narrow canal, up which junks ascend from the Peiho, is then crossed by a wooden bridge. During the remainder of the march the road passes between gardens teeming with fruit and vegetables, being bounded on both sides by deep wet ditches, across which guns and Cavalry would be unable to move except where cart-tracks turn off. On the left the gardens have but little depth, and are flanked by open country, covered here and there with Indian corn. The village of Sing-chung is passed at 6½ miles, in which 2 or 3 Battalions might with difficulty be encamped; at 7 miles 5 furlongs Yung-hui-chouang, a small village on the Peiho. At these two villages a narrow muddy creek is crossed by a wooden bridge. The road enters the town of Ko-kow at 9 miles, leaving it at 9¾ miles. The town is on the bank of the Peiho, and appears well built and opulent; population probably 15,000. The guns passed through it without difficulty. The camp was pitched on a large plain, with patches of Indian corn here and there, on the left of the road, about 1,000 yards beyond the town. Water from pools and a ditch, up which the water flowed from the river. The ground would hold a very large camp, but it is the only ground for several miles back where troops could have pitched their tents. A market was established, in which were procurable sheep, poultry, fruit, etc. Indian corn, millet, and rice were the principal cereals, the latter being seldom seen much beyond our first march.

	m.	f.
Ko-kow encampment.	10	3

The aspect of the country changes; the soil is drier, and the road no longer runs through gardens, but across a wide plain, covered here and there with Indian corn. No ditches bound the road. Hsien-shui-kow (1 mile in length), on the Peiho, is entered at the 5th mile. Yung-Ma-tow (on the river) at 7¼ miles. 2 miles further on, the road runs through Hsin-chouang, and ¾ of a mile beyond it, Peitang-kow, a large village on the Peiho. Beyond the last-named village we found several Forts on both sides of the river, made to defend its passage. They are well placed for the purpose; a small creek has to be crossed as you approach them (at present bridged).

m. f. Peitang-kow encampment. 11 4

The Forts are called Chien-jui. Country covered with Indian corn crops. Supplies brought to us in plenty. The country becomes higher as you proceed, and the road less liable to be cut up by rain. Some small villages are passed:—Shang-chouang on leaving camp, Hui-tui at 3—3, Cheng-tang-chouang and Shang-ho-chouang at 4—7, Chouang-ja-lo and Tu-chouang at 5—7. 6 furlongs beyond the last village we left the river, and bore off to our left to our encamping ground on the South side of Tientsin. A fine large Yamun near us was converted into a general hospital. A small canal running $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile on the South of our camp gave us water. Country highly cultivated. Forage everywhere abundant.

Tientsin encamping ground. miles 9

Total, 30—7.

See description of Tientsin in Report.

G. ALLGOOD, Lt.,
D.A.Q.M.G.,
1st Division.

REPORT ON THE ROAD BETWEEN TIENTSIN AND PEKIN,

MARCHED BY THE BRITISH ARMY IN SEPTEMBER–OCTOBER 1860.

Measurement from the bridge of boats on the Grand Canal.

The best places to halt at between Tientsin and Pekin are as follows:

	miles
1. Si-ku encampment	1½
2. Po-kow	11
3. Yang-tsun	7½
4. Nan-sai-tsun	7½
5. Ho-see-woo	11
6. Ma-tow	12
7. Chang-kya-wan	9½
8. Pa-li-kyao bridge (near Tung-chow)	6½
9. Pekin (Anting gate)	18¾
	80¼ miles.

Some of these marches may be doubled up, as the road is good.

The sketch shows where the road crosses the Grand Canal. It is about 50 yards wide, and is crossed by an exceedingly bad bridge of boats, which rises and falls with the tide. A suburb 3½ furlongs long (too narrow for carts to pass each other) having been passed through, the road crosses a navigable canal by a wooden bridge. A short distance above this the 'When-ho' meets the Peiho; the former is crossed by a bridge of boats, and resembles the Peiho in width, viz^{t}. about 60 yards. The road then passes through Si-ku, beyond which there is encamping ground on the left of the road on the bank of the 'When-ho.' On account of the difficulty of moving carts through Tientsin, and crossing two bridges of boats, it is desirable to make this the first stage.

Si-ku encampment. miles 1½

Road passes the following villages:—Ting-tsi-ku (a good village) at 7—, Wan-kya-chouang at 3—5, Lew-kya yuen at 4—3½. On the opposite bank of the Peiho is the large village of Peitsang, where there are large public granaries capable of sheltering 1,600 troops without crowding. At 5—4 Kowsoo, at 6—1 Wang-shing-chouang, Mya-kow at 9—3. This village is reached at 10—2. Encamped on low ground some distance beyond it. Indian corn growing all around us. Peiho was ½ a mile distant. Where the writer waded across, it had a hard sandy bottom, and was 4 feet deep at low water. An embankment on this side of the river, along which the road is generally conducted, shows that the Peiho at times overflows its banks. Country highly cultivated, but exceedingly devoid of trees.

Po-kow encampment miles 11

Country similar to last march. The villages

small and poor-looking. The road never leaves the river. This town is the largest between Tientsin and Pekin, and has a population of, perhaps, 30,000. Grain may be collected here to a great amount. A contractor offered to supply us at once with 60 tons of wheat and the same amount of barley, and Indian corn to any extent. Encamped outside the West gate. A large marsh can be seen on the South from the top of the gateway at about 2 or 3 miles off. Two companies of Infantry and a small detachment of Irregular Cavalry were stationed here.

m. f. Yang-tsun
7 4 (W. gate).

Villages more numerous on the left of the road than heretofore. The river is not seen till you reach the encamping ground. The villages passed through small. This is a large and well-built village with good houses. Encamped in a stubble-field near the river-side beyond the village. The river is 3 feet deep here. The tide affects its depth, as it was 2 feet deeper in the morning than in the afternoon.

Nan-set-chouang encamp-
7 4 ment.

The country becomes drier and more wooded, the principal trees being willow. Osier copses seen here and there. Road sandy in places. Ho-see-woo is an opulent town with a population of about 10,000 or 12,000. It affords good cover for 5,000 men. A Commissariat depôt and general hospital were formed here, and ½ a Battery of Artillery, 8 companies of Infantry, and a detachment of Irregular Cavalry stationed. It is considered half-way to Pekin. Every inch of the country cultivated as heretofore. The river here is about the same width as at Tientsin, but much shallower. Great quantities of wheat were found here.

Ho-see-woo (W. gate). miles 11

Road sandy in places, especially during the latter end of the march. Pass Nan-ping (large village) at 7—2. This town contained about 4,000 inhabitants, and was burnt by us for firing on our Sowars carrying the post. It is on the river, but the road no longer keeps near the river beyond it. Encamping ground on all sides.

Ma-tow. 12

The road passes through only one village during the march. Two miles short of this place it strikes a small stream (up which junks ascend to Chang-kya-wan) and runs along its right bank to the town. Chang-kya-wan is described in the accompanying report of the campaign.

Chang-kya-wan (bridge over stream). 9½

There are seldom defined landmarks in this country to guide the traveller. The tall pagoda at Tung-chow can, however, generally be kept in view during this march. This bridge is nearly 3 miles on the West of it. The paved road to Pekin crosses the canal here. See description of Tung-chow in accompanying Report.

Pa-li-kyao bridge. 6½

The paved road should be avoided if regard is had to your gun and cart wheels. The Allies always used a road which ran on the North of the paved road, and struck Pekin at its North-East corner. There are some brick-kilns at about 8 miles, where

a camp might be formed, as there is plenty of water. The country near Pekin is well wooded, and encamping ground may be found anywhere on the N. side of the city. There are numerous wells everywhere near Pekin, and during September and October forage was always found in great abundance. See description of Pekin in appended Report.

G. ALLGOOD, L^t.,
D.A.Q.M.G.,
1st Division.

APPENDICES

NOTES REGARDING NATIVE TROOPS ON FOREIGN SERVICE BEYOND THE SEA

It is desirable that Native Regiments proceeding on foreign service should be composed of either Sikhs or Mahomedans, and not of mixed classes and castes, where the prejudices of one sect interfere, on board ship, with those of another. Mahomedans and Sikhs both cook regularly on board, and are not so particular about trifles of caste as Hindoostanees are. The latter should not be sent on foreign service when the others are available, as their prejudices are obstructive.

ESTABLISHMENTS.

The following establishments only should accompany an Infantry Regiment:

20 Cooks or Langrees.
10 Bhisties.
5 Pakalies (water skins).
2 Sweepers [1] per ship.
1 Moonshee.
1 Moollah or Gruntee (as the case may be).
2 Tinmen.[2]
1 Lohar Mistree.
1 Moshee.
Adjutants and Quartermasters' clerks.
(Dhobies and clashies *useless*.)

The Hospital establishments should consist of:

2 Native Doctors.
2 Bhisties.
2 Cooks.
(Doolie bearers should not be sent to *China*.)
2 doolies per Company should go.

[1] These sweepers should be attached to the hospital on landing.

[2] Material for tinning should be made over to the Quartermaster before embarking.

KIT AND CLOTHING.

The native followers should embark with the same kit as the soldiers, viz[t]:

1 waterproof valise (marked with the man's regiment and number).
1 winter cloth suit.[3]
1 puttoo coat.
1 pair of new American drill khakee trousers.[4]
1 English greatcoat.[5]
1 „ blanket.
1 sheepskin posteen.
2 flannel shirts.
1 pair of cotton drawers.
2 pairs of woollen socks.
2 „ of ammunition boots (English).
2 turbans.
1 waterproof sheet 6 × 1¾ feet.
1 haversack.
1 water canteen.
1 small lota, and brass plate.
2 tin cases of blacking and 1 small brush.

The undermentioned articles should be carefully stowed away (in the event of its being summer) in the valise, and not undone till required, viz[t]:

1 cloth suit.
1 flannel shirt.
1 pair of drawers.
1 „ of socks.
1 pair of boots.
1 case of blacking.
1 turban.

To be left at the depôt on disembarking.

[3] The winter suit might probably be dispensed with in Egypt or Persia, and an extra pair of khakee trousers given in lieu.

[4] A second pair of old ones may be taken for use on shipboard.

[5] Country greatcoats, boots, or blankets should on no account be given to troops proceeding on foreign service. The Afghan choga might advantageously be substituted for the greatcoat with all native troops, as it is at least a couple of lbs. lighter.

The Soldier should embark with his usual marching kit and dress, viz^{t}.:

Puttoo coat.	Greatcoat and blanket, being rolled up in the waterproof sheet, with one-third of a *tente d'abri*.
Khakee drill trousers.	
Flannel shirt.	
Socks.	
Ammunition boots.	A stout, serviceable haversack.
	Water canteen.

The haversack should have a division inside, in which may be stowed away his round tin of blacking and blacking brush.

He should not be allowed to wear his shoes and socks on board ship, except when parading.

A couple of canvas frocks and 1 waterproof cape per 3 men should be given for wear on board ship.

No hammocks are required.

MUSSUKS AND PUKALS.

A few spare ones should be shipped.

AMMUNITION.

Ammunition at the rate of 200 rounds per man, inclusive of 60 in pouch, should be sent with Regiments. Any further supply should go in Military Storeships. The ammunition should, for convenience of carriage, be made up in cases of 800 or 850 rounds each, and suleetahs for ponies should accompany.

COOKING UTENSILS.

Should, to secure uniformity, be made up in Magazines on an approved pattern, capable of compact packing, suited for ½ Companies, or perhaps sections. One mule or pony should be able to carry the cooking utensils, fowrahs, billhooks, and axes of a Company.

Rations for land and sea for all Indians should be:

	lbs.	ozs.		lbs.	ozs.
Rice or flour[1]	1½		Firewood	2	
Dhall		4	Turmeric		⅛
Ghee		2	Pepper		⅛
Salt		⅝	Sugar		3

1 lb. of mutton twice a week on land.

Additional on board ship:

	lbs.	ozs.		lbs.	ozs.
Onions		¼	Tamarind		2
Garlic		¼	Chillies		¼

Tobacco may be substituted for rum by those who like it; the latter 1 dram daily.

Opium and tea on payment.

Meat was often issued in lieu of ghee or other articles not procurable.

SUPERFLUOUS CLOTHING

During the recent campaign the native soldiers embarked at Calcutta with a great quantity of superfluous clothing, pots, pans, &c. These, as a matter of course, were never landed, and were probably thrown overboard. Not one single article of clothing in excess of what the writer has laid down, with, perhaps, the exception of a pair of light trousers

[1] Flour four times a week to Hindoostanees and Punjabees.

expressly for shipboard, should be permitted on board. The men should have timely notice to sell such extra kit before they embark.

TENTS.

Nowhere except in India can heavy tents be used on a campaign.

During the recent campaign in China bell tents only were used.

14 Men were allowed to each bell tent.

3 Waterproof sheets
1 Spade
1 Billhook
2 Tin cooking camp-kettles
} were given to each tent.

Equal to 98 or 100 lbs. in weight in all.

Commanding Officer 1 bell tent
Other Field Officers 1 „
Medical Officers 1 „
Officers of each company 1 „
Regimental Staff 1 „
} Two tents could be carried on 1 mule or pony.

A few large tents might be sent for Hospitals in a standing camp.

Where transport is scarce the carriage of tents is a heavy item. Native troops should, I think, always carry their own *tentes d'abri*, both in India and abroad.

As long as European soldiers have to carry their knapsacks, Bell tents should be supplied to them. The *tente d'abri* is sufficient to protect the soldier from night dews, and pitched under shade does well enough for day work.

Bell tents should be given to Native Regiments for their Hospital at the rate of 3 per regiment, and *tentes d'abri* for guard tents.

4 fowrahs, 2 billhooks, and 2 hand axes per Company should be sent with Regiments on service, and on land should be carried with the cooking utensils as recommended above.

OFFICERS' SERVANTS.

Field officers 2
For other officers 1
} not including Syces.

Mess Cooks and a small proportion of servants should accompany Regiments.

HORSES.

The Quartermaster 1.
Army, Divisional, and Brigade Staff
} 2 each.

MEDICAL (*see* HOSPITAL).

2 medical officers should accompany a Native Regiment.

Instruments, medicines, and small boxes of medical comforts should be in portable trunks fitted for mule or pony carriage.

Mosquito curtains were not required in the North of China.

1 pair of medical panniers and 1 pair of boxes to contain medical comforts, fitted for mule carriage, should be sent with each corps.

EUROPEAN REGIMENTS.

The only native establishments that should accompany European Regiments on foreign service are: Bhisties and cook-boys, at the rate of 2 each per company, and 2 each for the Hospital.

The English tin, new pattern, camp kettle should be sent if possible, as they are lighter than the Indian cooking boilers, and require no tinning.

Bell tents only, at the rate of 14 men per tent.

Billhooks, hand axes, and spades at the same rate as recommended for Native Regiments.

Doolies and mussuks, but no doolie-bearers to China.

IRREGULAR CAVALRY.

10 or perhaps 15 per cent. of grass-cutters should accompany on foreign service. These men should be 'oomedwars,' who might be brought on the strength of the Regiment as sowars on casualties occurring.

2 spare sets of horseshoes (for the fore-feet), with a double supply of nails, should be taken by each man.

1 horse blanket, 1 blanket, 1 greatcoat, 1 posteen, and a warm suit of clothing,[1] with 1 pair of ammunition boots, should be in the possession of each man on embarking.

2 light pukals per troop, with a pony for each pukal, should be sent with the regiment.

G. ALLGOOD, L^t.,
D.A.Q.M.G.

[1] This might probably be dispensed with in Egypt or Persia, the posteen being worn in cold weather.

HORSE TRANSPORTS.

For information and guidance in future expeditions, the reader is referred to Major Probyn's Report. The writer has reason to believe that Captain Fane's and Godby's opinions on the subject closely coincide with Major Probyn's.

The following is a *précis* of its contents:—Horse ships should not have false decks unless they are properly caulked. Should have large scuppers to carry off the urine. Should have bow-ports if possible. Great attention should be paid to the ventilation if the voyage is to warm latitudes. The horses should be on the main deck. Stalls should be 7′ long and 2′ 6″ wide from centre to centre of stanchions. A space of 3′ 6″ or 4′ in rear of the stalls to enable the men to clean the horses properly. To effect this it may be necessary to diminish the space between the row of stalls on the opposite side of the ship.

The height between the planking of the decks should never be less than 7′.

The iron pegs for fixing the side-boards should be attached to the stanchions with a short chain, otherwise they are frequently lost.

There should be a strong bamboo, 15″ below the upper one. Cross battens should be placed directly beneath the sideboards, made so as to allow the urine to run off.

The feeding troughs should have strong fixings, as they get rough handling.

There should be 10 per cent. of spare stalls on long voyages.

25 per cent. only of resting slings.

6 shipping slings in each ship.

1 scraper per stall.

50 per cent. of brooms, with a reserve.

Coir mats are most useful, but should only be used in rough weather, as they are liable to stink and become full of insects if not taken up.

Hay nets, 1 per each horse.

Some only of the European superintendents who were sent to China were useful. The others were not qualified.

A horse requires 6 gallons of water per day in hot weather; in cool weather, 5.

Oats are superior to gram, the latter frequently causing gripes.

Chloride of zinc should be freely and frequently used.

The men's apartments should *not* be bulk-headed off from the horses. They should be white-washed once a week, and the horse-deck every ten days.

Major Probyn and Captain Fane could afford any information relative to the proper equipment, &c.,

of Irregular Cavalry about to proceed on foreign service.

LAND TRANSPORT.

Great waste of life occurred amongst our Land Transport animals in China. The manner in which they were shipped (an exception is made of those sent from Bombay), and the wretched condition in which they remained until the end of the campaign, in spite of the abundance of forage always available, may be attributed to the following causes:

1st. The Military Train, under whose immediate supervision the animals were placed, were unaccustomed to look after them, and ignorant of fitting and looking to their gear. The syces were composed of Indians, Manilla men, and others, and, with few exceptions, could neither understand nor be understood by the officers and men placed over them. The syces were wretched and uncared for, and, as a natural consequence, the animals were neglected.

2nd. The faulty pack-saddles gave the animals sore backs; little attention appears to have been paid to fitting them. The only good pack-saddle was the *pad pack-saddle* sent with the mules from Bombay. It can be injured with difficulty, seldom gives sore backs, and is easily repaired. No other should be used.

3rd. The fittings of the ships which carried the ponies were often flimsy. The ponies were stowed away like sheep. In one vessel from Japan 75 ponies perished by the fittings having given way in a gale. To judge by the condition of the ponies brought from Manilla, Japan, &c., but little care can have been bestowed on them during the voyage.

4th. There appeared to be little or no system in the management of the Transport animals.

Should an expedition be again sent to China, Persia, or Egypt, the Land Transport should all go from Bombay, and a special corps organised, composed of efficient men.

The Officer selected to command, as well as those under him, should be specially chosen on account of their activity, knowledge of the treatment of animals, and also of the vernacular. Their Pay should be such as to secure the best men.

Intelligent privates from Dragoon Regiments—men with a good knowledge of the vernacular, and smart attentive men—should be placed over the syces and drivers as Non-Commissioned Officers, in the proportion of 1 Non-Commissioned Officer to 20 syces. A similar number of intelligent natives, as jemadars, in the same proportion, should assist the Non-Commissioned Officers.

1 syce should be sent with every 2 mules or ponies.

The Corps should be divided into divisions, subdivisions, &c., and a regular system of internal

economy and control established. The Non-Commissioned Officers should be armed with hunting whip and revolver only, and should be mounted on ponies.

The Commanding Officer should be alone responsible to, and under the orders of, the Principal Commissariat Officer.

The Corps should be organised and in working order before it embarked. The Non-Commissioned Officers and men should be practised in fitting saddles, loads, &c., picketing, and other useful work.

Surplus saddles and all kinds of gear should be sent with the Head-Quarters of the Corps, and a staff of mochies, blacksmiths, &c.

The ships should be strongly and carefully fitted, and the animals should be daily groomed, and attention paid to their food and watering. Each animal should have a separate stall; otherwise, in bad weather, there will be much loss amongst them.

In China we used light English-built, four-wheeled, waggons and Maltese carts. In countries where the roads are tolerable they are, I think, preferable to pack animals, are more economical, and easily loaded. Each waggon was drawn by 4 mules or ponies, and carried 1,500 lbs.; the carts by 2 ponies, and carried from 800 to 1,000 lbs. The harness should be of the simplest and stoutest materials.

CATTLE TRANSPORTS.

The mortality amongst the slaughter cattle and sheep brought up to Talien-Whan for the use of the army was excessive. Often one-third of each shipload died on the voyage, and the remainder were so poor as to be unfit for use.

From inquiries I have learnt that both sheep and cattle on board ship require special care in respect to their diet and watering. I would recommend, when sheep and cattle are shipped by the Commissariat, that competent ship's butchers be placed on board to look after and attend to them, at whatever price the services of such men may be obtained.

G. ALLGOOD, Lt.,
D.A.Q.M.G.

OBSERVATIONS MÉTÉOROLOGIQUES FAITES À PÉKIN PENDANT LE COURS DES ANNÉES 1855-59.

Pour les Mois d'Hiver.

(*Thermomètre de Réaumur.*)

	JANVIER		FÉVRIER		MARS		NOVEMBRE		DÉCEMBRE	
	Température de l'air		Température de l'air		Température de l'air		Température de l'air		Température de l'air	
	Minim.	Maxim.	Minim.	Maxim.	Minim.	Maxim.	Minim.	Maxim.	Minim.	Maxim.
1	−9·5	−1·8	−10·4	− 2·2	−1·6	+ 9·0	+0·1	+ 8·5	− 2·5	+5·4
2	−5·7	−0·2	− 7·6	+ 1·2	−3·7	+ 9·3	+1·7	+11·3	− 1·7	+6·3
3	−7·6	−0·3	− 8·6	+ 1·8	−3·2	+ 9·6	+2·7	+10·8	+ 2·0	+6·8
4	−6·4	+0·6	− 6·9	+ 6·3	−1·8	+10·8	+2·7	+12·0	− 1·2	+7·1
5	−7·4	+1·0	− 2·8	+ 4·4	−0·4	+12·8	+4·2	+12·9	− 0·5	+9·0
6	−6·8	−0·8	− 5·6	+ 4·6	+3·2	+ 9·5	+3·1	+11·2	+ 0·9	+5·7
7	−4·9	+1·2	− 5·7	+ 4·0	+1·4	+ 7·9	+5·6	+12·7	+ 0·2	+6·0
8	−8·7	+0·5	− 9·1	+ 3·7	+3·6	+11·7	+0·2	+ 6·6	− 2·9	+8·6
9	−3·8	+2·1	−10·3	+ 1·6	+1·2	+ 7·4	−2·7	+ 5·9	− 5·4	+4·5
10	−3·6	+1·8	− 4·8	+ 2·9	−3·3	+ 3·8	−0·6	+11·6	− 4·9	+0·0
11	−5·6	−1·2	− 6·7	+ 2·8	−3·7	+ 5·1	+1·7	+ 6·1	− 6·0	+1·3
12	−8·2	−3·3	− 3·4	− 6·3	−1·0	+ 7·2	−2·4	+ 5·5	− 4·7	+3·0
13	−7·1	−1·3	− 2·6	+ 7·4	−2·4	+ 8·9	−0·8	+ 5·8	− 2·0	+3·1
14	−4·6	−0·7	+ 0·0	+ 5·2	+3·6	+ 6·8	+0·3	+ 4·3	− 1·4	+2·7
15	−8·6	−0·1	− 4·6	− 0·2	−5·7	+ 2·7	+2·0	+ 4·7	− 3·4	+4·4
16	−7·5	+2·6	− 4·6	+10·2	−3·7	+ 4·3	+1·2	+ 5·2	− 3·4	+6·8
17	−5·3	+0·5	+ 1·3	+10·9	−1·4	+ 5·9	+0·2	+ 5·4	− 2·1	+6·4
18	−7·8	−3·7	− 4·2	+ 8·7	−0·6	+ 9·5	+0·2	+ 5·5	− 2·0	+5·9
19	−8·8	−4·8	− 5·7	+ 5·8	−1·6	+ 8·4	+2·2	+ 5·5	+ 1·7	+8·3
20	−8·2	−2·7	− 3·1	+ 9·4	−1·1	+10·8	−1·1	+ 3·4	− 2·1	+3·9
21	−8·1	−4·4	− 2·9	+ 6·2	+0·5	+12·4	−2·6	+ 2·7	− 3·3	+2·1
22	−9·5	−3·6	− 1·9	+11·4	+1·0	+14·0	−3·1	+ 4·0	− 3·8	+5·9
23	−6·0	−2·3	+ 0·4	+ 7·8	+4·2	+14·9	−3·1	+ 3·8	− 4·9	+1·5
24	−7·5	−2·4	− 2·4	+ 4·1	+5·3	+12·7	−1·2	+ 5·4	− 5·8	−0·3
25	−5·8	+0·5	−10·1	− 3·4	+3·2	+11·9	−1·0	+ 2·9	− 7·6	−1·4
26	−7·9	−0·4	−10·1	+ 0·2	+0·9	+11·9	−2·4	+ 3·2	− 5·5	−1·0
27	−8·4	+0·3	− 5·7	+ 8·6	+4·0	+ 9·8	−2·7	+ 4·0	− 6·3	−2·7
28	−8·4	+0·8	—	—	+1·0	+12·3	−3·5	+ 2·3	− 8·6	−2·5
29	−7·1	+4·0	—	—	+4·0	+13·6	−4·5	+ 3·4	− 9·6	−2·3
30	−4·6	+1·3	—	—	+3·4	+17·4	−4·2	+ 6·3	−10·0	−3·0
31	−6·5	−2·5	—	—	+9·2	+14·0	—	—	− 8·5	−1·6

Température moyenne (*Thermomètre de Réaumur*)

Janvier . .	− 4·02	Réaumur	22·995 Fahrenheit.
Février . .	− 0·88		30·02 ,,
Mars . . .	+ 0·47		33·06 ,,
Octobre . .	+10·16		57·11 ,,
Novembre . .	+ 2·77		38·23 ,,
Décembre . .	− 0·57		30·72 ,,

Pour réduire les degrés de Réaumur aux degrés de Fahrenheit il faut se souvenir que le 0 de Réaumur correspond à 32° de Fahrenheit, et que 80° Réaumur = 180° Fahrenheit, ou que 4° Réaum. = 9° Fahren.

Copied at Pekin from a Register kept by the French Mission.—1860.

G. Allgood, Lt.,
D.A.Q.M.G.

QUESTIONS ABOUT HORSE-SHIPS.

1. How many days did your voyage from Calcutta to Hong-Kong occupy?

2. In what condition did the horses arrive at Hong-Kong?

3. How many horses did you lose on the voyage?

4. To what causes do you attribute the casualties?

5. Did the horses fall off in condition during the early part of the voyage?

6. Did you find the European superintendent useful?

7. What number of horses had you on board?

8. How many spare stalls had you?

9. What is the minimum number of spare stalls per cent. that should be given?

10. What was the average temperature between decks?

11. What deck ventilation had the ship besides the hatchways?

12. Was the ventilation adequate?

13. Did you ever close the port-holes or hatchways, or both? If so, did the horses suffer from deficient ventilation?

14. What height was there between the planking of the two decks, and was the height sufficient for horses?

15. Did you find the horses throw their heads against the upper deck when frightened?

16. Were the horse-stalls sufficiently long and broad, or would their dimensions be increased or decreased with advantage?

17. Were the fittings stout enough, or were they defective in any way? Can you suggest any improvement in them?,

18. Are the battens overhead for slinging horses better than hooks?

19. Did you make much use of the slings in fine weather and did the horses benefit by them? Do you think them of use?

20. Do you consider one resting-sling per horse necessary? If not, how many per cent. would you recommend?

21. Should all the bales of the stalls be padded with sheepskin?

22. Were the coir mats useful, and do you, as a rule, recommend them for horse-ships?

23. How often did you throw chloride of lime or zinc on the lower decks? Had you sufficient on board?

24. Were your scrapers and brooms sufficient?

25. How often did you sponge the horses' heads and docks with vinegar? Did it seem to revive them?

26. Is five gallons of water per horse per diem sufficient?

27. At what hours did you water the horses, and did they drink greedily?

28. Did the mixed ration of gram and bran seem sufficient, and did it gripe the horses?

29. Was the chopped rice-straw given in equal quantities with hay, and did it agree with the horses?

30. What breed of horses stood the voyage best?

31. Was the portion of the deck for the men which was bulkheaded off from the horses generally free from foul odours?

32. Should it be fore or aft of the horses?

33. Did you find the hay-nets useful?

34. How did the grain troughs answer?

35. How did the scuppers answer?

36. Are you an advocate for whitewashing the horse-deck and men's apartments frequently with lime?

(signed) G. ALLGOOD, Lt.,
D.A.Q.M.General,
1st Division.

ANSWERS TO CAPTAIN ALLGOOD'S QUESTIONS ABOUT HORSE-SHIPS.

Camp, Tientsin, North China:
September 8th, 1860.

1. We embarked at Garden Reach on the 22nd of March, and sailed on 24th. Disembarked at Kowloon on 27th April.

2. The horses arrived at Kowloon in very fair condition. On landing we had one regular case of mange, and two or three others with a slight irritation of the skin.

3. We lost two horses on the voyage.

4. Mr. Kettlewell, my veterinary surgeon, attributed the casualties to sudden changes of temperature from great heat to cold. The 2 horses we lost both died of disease of the lungs ('pleura pneumonia').

5. The horses did not fall off in condition during the early part of the voyage, but the weather was very hot and close when passing through the Straits of Malacca, which tried the horses considerably, and pulled down some of the weaker ones.

6. The veterinary surgeon was on my ship, but I had five European superintendents among the other ships. Two out of the five were certainly of use, as they had been brought up with horses, and understood the management of them. The other three were men who had never had any experience with horses, and consequently were useless.

7. We embarked 85 horses at Garden Reach, and landed 83 at Kowloon.

8. We had 96 stalls; 11 spare ones. All the stalls were on the main deck, none below.

9. I would recommend that there are never less than 10 per cent. spare stalls; with valuable horses there ought to be more.

10. I have not the records by me just now, but I think, at a guess, it was about 90°.

11. The deck ventilation on board the 'Queen of England' was as follows:—There were two large bow-ports, which we were generally able to keep open. Two ventilators cut through the forecastle. A long ventilator above the horses' heads on each side of the boathouse (rather aft), extending over three stalls. A large ventilator in the centre of the boathouse, a little more forward than the last named, quite as long, and much larger. There were also a couple of cowl-heads cut through the forecastle. There were, too, about a dozen very small 'side-ports,' which were of little or no use. Three hatchways. There were also two large 'side-ports' midships, but they were only about six inches above the level of the main deck, and consequently were never able to be kept open except when in harbour. In addition to what I have mentioned there was all the ventilation in the aft part of the ship put aside for the men's apartments.

12. It is my opinion, and also Mr. Kettlewell's, that, although the ship was about the best ventilated ship of the eight transports taken up for my regiment, it would have been improved considerably by three *large* '*side-ports*' on each side, cut out sufficiently large to allow of their being kept open in ordinary weather. We think that all horse transport ships ought to have these 'sideports.'

13. The hatchways were never shut, but the bow-ports were occasionally, and the horses at once felt the great change it made. The bow-ports were the best ventilation we had in the ship, and all horse transports ought to have them.

14. The height between decks was 7 ft. 8 in., which is

sufficient for horses not over 14.3. Horses over fifteen hands require 'eight feet' decks. The higher the decks are, the better for the horses. At every 4 ft. 4 in. on my ship there was a large wooden beam, one foot square, running across the ship above the horses' heads, and thus reducing the height of the decks at these places to 6 ft. 7 in. Some of the ships had small iron beams, which were certainly a great improvement, as the ventilation more or less was stopped by the wooden beams.

15. Horses immediately under the beams I have just mentioned frequently hit their heads against them. It was also extremely difficult to administer medicine to any horses under these beams.

16. Each stall was 2 ft. 4 in. in breadth, by 7 feet in length from chest-board to tail-board, which I think was quite sufficient for the majority of horses, but perhaps a little tight for large English horses.

(2) I am of opinion, and Mr. Kettlewell agrees with me, that the passage behind the horses was a great deal too small. I noticed this in all the ships. In the ship the breadth of the passage from 'tail-board' to side of the ship was 2 ft. 2½ inches. I think it certainly ought to be 3 ft. 6 in., or even 4 feet. To obtain this breadth I am sure it would be advisable to diminish the centre space, as without it there is the greatest difficulty in cleaning the horses and the stalls. The centre space between each row of stalls was, in my ship, 13 ft. 2¼ inches. I would willingly have spared 3 feet of this for the passage behind the horses.

17. The fittings on board the transports were all stout enough, but did not fit well enough, and consequently the 'side-pieces' frequently came out, and the 'tail-board,' too, was often kicked down.

(2) Mr. Kettlewell and I are of opinion that many improvements might be made in the fittings. I now name some of them. In the first place, we think that all the iron pegs used for fixing the 'side-boards' to the stanchions should be attached to the stanchions by a small chain, as if not put in very carefully they are frequently dropping out, and a kick will then knock the 'side-board' down. The iron peg, too, is very likely lost.

(3) We think there ought to be a second 'side-board' between the horses. The one 'side-board' in our ship was 8½ inches in depth, and the bottom of it 8 feet from the ground, so that one horse could easily, and very frequently did, kick its neighbour in the next stall. In this way many of the horses were considerably damaged about the hocks. We would suggest that there should be a second 'side-board' *not less* than a foot and *not more* than eighteen inches from the upper 'side-board.' It need not be anything like as large as the upper one; in fact, it ought not to be, on account of the ventilation which a board of similar dimensions would, in some way, stop. A strong bamboo would answer capitally. All that is required is something sufficiently strong to resist the kick of a horse. The argument against it is that a horse might get its leg over it, but we both feel convinced in our own minds that the accidents which *might* possibly happen with the second 'side-board' would bear but a very small proportion to those which (from experience we know) do continually happen with only one board to separate the horses.

(4) We both look upon it, too, as absolutely necessary that there should be cross-battens on the deck at each horse's stall. At present the battens only run fore and aft, and consequently there is nothing to prevent horses from slipping down. The cross-battens ought to be immediately under, and in a line with, the 'side-boards,' and nailed over and on to the battens which run fore and aft, so that the urine may pass underneath them.

(5) There is also another point on which we have the same opinion. I refer to the *false deck*. We both feel convinced there should be *no* false deck. With them, as they are now laid down, it is perfectly impossible to keep

the decks clean, for the following reasons:—The false deck not being corked, in fact only consisting of planks laid loosely above the real deck, the urine must lodge between the two, and consequently a very unhealthy odour must arise from it. The decks, too, can never be kept thoroughly dry from the urine rising between the planks. It would also be quite impossible to take the planks up with horses in the ship. If there is a false deck to save the real deck it ought to be corked and made thoroughly water-tight. It is also a mistake to imagine that a false deck consisting only of planks placed loosely on the top of the real deck will preserve the latter. The accumulation of urine and dirt must rot and destroy the wood of the real deck, and do it as much, if not more, damage than the wear and tear of horses standing on it. In the one case the deck may be damaged in a few places by some restless horses; but in the other (a false deck) the whole deck must be more or less ruined.

18. In my ship we had battens overhead for slinging horses, instead of hooks, and found them answer very well. I don't see that the one is likely to be much better than the other, but the hooks I certainly never saw tried.

19. We only used the slings with a few weak or sickly horses, and to such animals they certainly are of use. I have heard, too, that they were used with benefit on some of my other ships in cases of horses being restless and kicking badly.

20. I should think 25 slings per cent. would be ample.

21. The bales certainly ought to be padded, but I think stout leather stuffed with some soft substance would be better, as the sheepskin accumulates dirt, if there be no other harm in it.

22. The coir mats are of great use, but a horse requires a fresh one every week, as if they are kept longer they create a great smell, and soon become filled with insects.

23. It was used about twice a week. We only had 2 large jars of chloride of zinc on board my ship, containing (at a guess) about 10 gallons in each, and this was not of the best quality. It ought to be used freely and frequently.

24. The scrapers and brooms supplied to us in Calcutta were of the worst description; the former were perfectly useless; but, luckily, we were able to get some good ones at Singapore. Each trooper ought to have a scraper, and there ought to be a broom to every two stalls. There ought also to be spare ones on board, as, if used well, the best break and wear out.

25. We had the horses' heads (chiefly the eyes and nostrils) and docks sponged with vinegar three times a week. A daily appliance of the same in hot weather would be advisable, as it is very reviving to horses.

26. Five gallons of water is only sufficient in the cold weather. Horses cannot do with less than six gallons in the hot weather, and most of them would drink seven gallons.

27. We watered the horses twice a day—always before feeding—at 8 in the morning, and between 4 and 5 in the afternoon. They always drank greedily, especially in the hot weather.

28. As regards feeding the horses, the following is what Mr. Kettlewell recommends, and what I had carried out as far as possible:—Oats and bran about half and half, wet. Occasionally plain dry oats, and about 3 feeds a week of soft bran mash. During the week oats were used in a proportion of about 4 to 3 parts of bran. Mr. Kettlewell does not approve of gram as a food for horses on board ship, but occasionally, for horses with bad appetites or in weakly condition, he recommends it mixed with oats. If the greater portion of the horses' food consists of gram on board ship it is a fruitful source of gripes.

29. The chopped straw was not much given to horses on board my ship, as Mr. Kettlewell did not think it agreed with them.

30. As a breed of horses, I think the Capes stood the voyage best, and the Arabs next. In fact, there is no doubt

about it, as the Capes actually thrived on the voyage. But then it must not be forgotten that my Capes were all young horses, and my Arabs (chiefly old 12th Lancer horses) were aged, averaging about 8 years, and having served through a hard campaign in Central India. The Arabs were always so fit for work immediately on landing that they quite kept up their good name.

31. The portion of the deck bulkheaded off from the horses for the men was never entirely free from foul odours till we took down the bulkhead! This being down, a more free passage of air was at once allowed, and we were generally able to keep the men's apartments pretty sweet, but there were no stern-ports in the ship, and without them it would have been almost impossible to have kept the apartments portioned off for the men entirely free from foul odours at all hours.

32. If there are no stern-ports in a vessel, as was the case in the ship, the men might be cooler forward, but it would not do to have them there. They would be dreadfully in the way, and much room would be lost in the ship. In the cold weather the camp-followers must be allowed some abode on the horse-deck, and therefore the division of the aft part of the ship for the men, and the fore part for the horses, is very good.

33. They ought to have been much larger, but nevertheless we found them of the greatest use by slinging them in a peculiar way.

34. They were made so weakly that they had to be repaired every day. As the grain troughs are always being taken down, and occasionally get rather rough handling, they ought to be made very strong indeed, and the top of the trough bound with a thin sheet of iron or tin to prevent the horses from biting them.

35. The scuppers in my ship were a failure, as they were so small that they soon stopped up, and were useless for the rest of the voyage. At Singapore, on making an application to the Captain of my ship, he had two fresh scuppers bored in the aft part of the horse-deck for me. These were 4 inches in circumference, and carried off the urine capitally. All horse transports ought to have such scuppers.

36. Yes. I am a great advocate for whitewashing. The men's apartments were whitewashed every week, and the horse-deck every ten days. I am sure it was productive of great cleanliness in more than looks.

D. M. PROBYN, Maj^{r}.,
Com^{dt}. 1st Sikh Irr. Cavalry.

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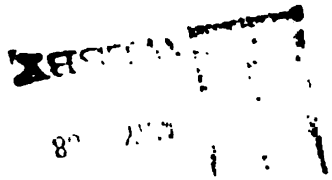

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